

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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## POLL RESULTS

Have you already signed the petition supporting the construction of a football field complex on Saipan?

Yes-13

No-31

Will sign-23

Will not sign-25

Sunday March 23, 2008

## INSIDE



### Bold Action

The Federal Reserve has taken its boldest action since the Great Depression, invoking rarely used powers.

**BUSINESS...Page 13**

### Comeback Bid

At 70, former Philippine president Joseph Estrada says he is in good health, and movies and politics are beckoning again.

**ASIA...Page 15**



### Online Auction

It seems almost everybody wants a piece of Britney Spears.

**LIFE & STYLE...Page 20**

Restaurant burglarized thrice, 3 teens fall. **PAGE 2**

'Help Miura' t-shirts eyed to fund defense. **PAGE 7**

## 'US Labor wage report flawed'

Two ranking U.S. House members described as "poorly researched" and "fundamentally flawed" a study conducted by the U.S. Department of Labor on the impact of the increased minimum wage on the economies of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa.



Miller



Kennedy

According to a *Samoa News* report, Rep. George Miller and Sen. Edward M. Kennedy wrote U.S. Labor Secretary Elaine Chao on March 14 to raise concerns that the Labor study—mandated by Congress—does not adequately address minimum wage issues, was poorly researched and in many respects, was fundamentally flawed.

Miller is chairman of the House Committee on Education & Labor and Kennedy is the chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, La-

bor and Pensions.

Quoting the two lawmakers, *The Samoa News* said the Labor report makes

See **US** on Page 4

## '73 percent of budget goes to salaries'

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Sen. Maria Frica T. Pangelinan reported that 73 percent—or about \$121 million—of the House-approved budget of \$164.25 million has been earmarked just for the salaries of government personnel

in fiscal year 2008.

In her report on H.B. 16-51 that was passed by the House of Representatives last month, the chairman of the Senate Committee of Fiscal Affairs said that, while personnel costs for 4,393 full-time employees get the lion's share of the

See **73 PERCENT** on Page 4

## US deaths in Iraq approach 4,000

By ROBERT H. REID  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

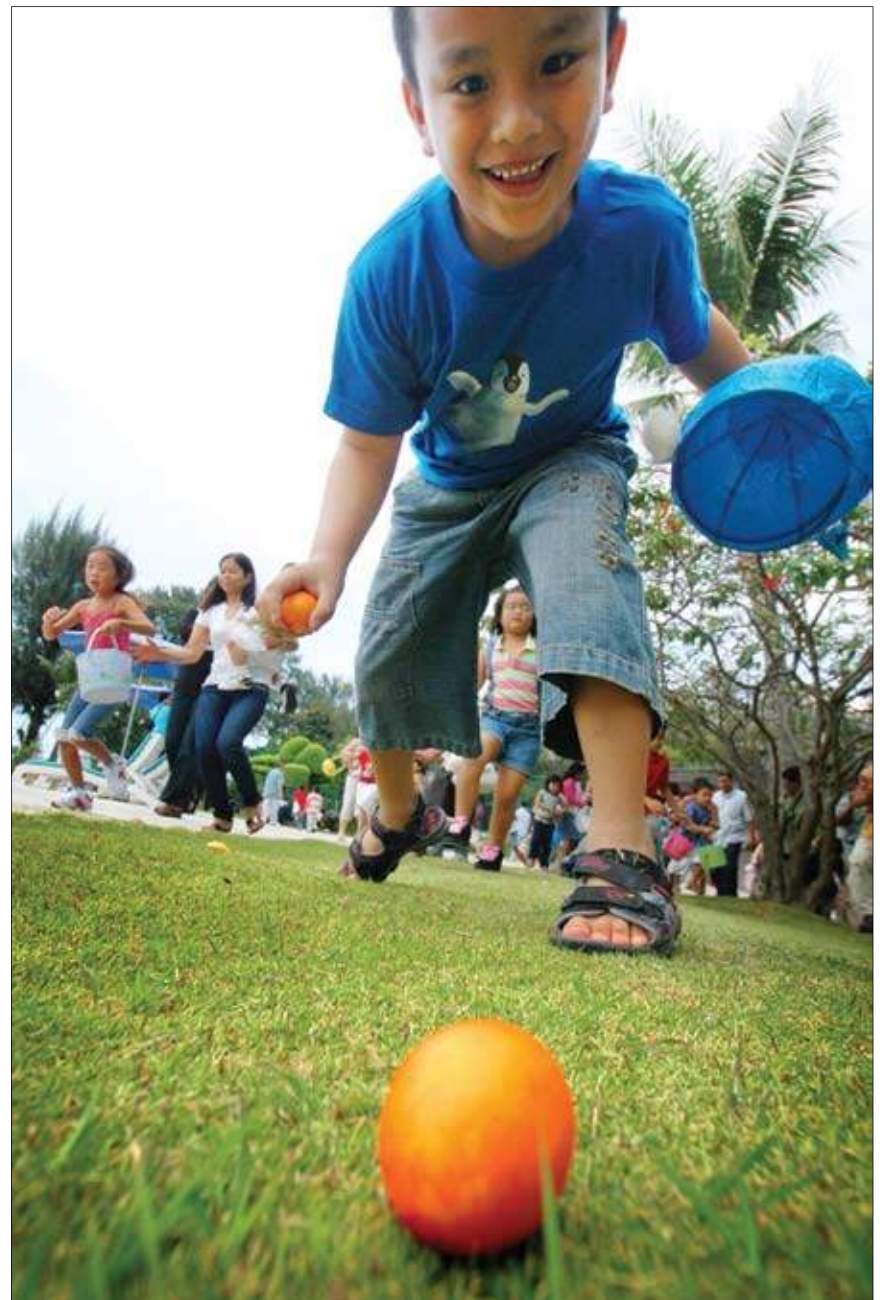
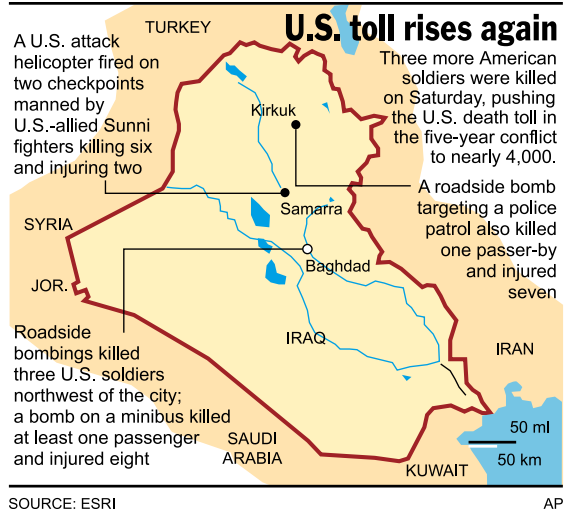
**BAGHDAD** (AP)—A roadside bomb killed three American soldiers north of Baghdad on Saturday, pushing the U.S. death toll in the five-year conflict to nearly 4,000.

Also Saturday, Iraqi authorities reported that a U.S. airstrike north of the capital killed six members of a U.S.-backed Sunni group—straining relations with America's new allies in the fight against al-Qaida.

Two Iraqi civilians also died in the roadside bombing, which occurred as the Americans were patrolling an area north-

west of the capital, the U.S. military said in a statement.

See **DEATHS** on Page 4



### EGG HUNT

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Six-year-old Alfie Madlangbayan, together with dozens of other children, run around with their baskets scooping up as many eggs as possible on the south poolside pavilion of Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan for an Easter egg hunting activity yesterday. The festive event is done in observance of Easter Sunday, during which Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It also marks the end of the Lenten Season for the Catholic faith.

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## Local

# Restaurant burglarized thrice, 3 teens fall

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The Canton Restaurant in Garapan, which has been operating

on Saipan 24 years now, was burglarized thrice in the past four months.

The latest incident happened early Saturday morning when

police arrested three male juveniles who were caught inside the restaurant.

Department of Public Safety spokesperson Lei Ogumoro

confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that Canton Restaurant was indeed burglarized. She, however, stated that she has not seen the complete police report yet.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, Canton Restaurant owner Carol Wong Chan said it was the police who called them that three teenagers had been arrested for breaking into the establishment.

Chan said she learned that it was a security guard from another establishment who called the police when he noticed a beam of light from a flashlight inside Canton Restaurant.

Responding police officers arrested the suspects, who were found in possession of two boxes of frozen shrimps, two cases of beer, \$20 cash, candies, chocolates, and other items.

Chan said the teenagers managed to enter the restaurant by removing the steel bars from the kitchen's window, located in the back of the building.

She said the window was not fully repaired after the second burglary that occurred on Feb. 15, during which \$50 in coins and \$100 worth of watches and some items were stolen from her office and the restaurant.

The owner said that on Dec. 20, burglars stole her digital camera, electronic dictionary, \$100 in coins, and her small wallet containing \$100.

On Feb. 22, Chan's Rose Karaoke, located above the Canton Restaurant, was also burglarized and a DVD player, CDs and other karaoke equipment were stolen.

Chan said that, although they thank the police for the arrest, they are also appealing to law

enforcers to conduct more patrol runs in Garapan because of rampant burglaries.

"We already tried many improvements in the building for security purposes. But the burglars just keep on coming. That's why we don't leave big amounts of money in the restaurant and my office anymore," Chan said.

The businesswoman said the burglars would strike at their restaurant every year, especially when Christmas is approaching.

Chan's sister, Ana, said they are tired and upset be-

cause they are frequent victims of these burglars.

"The parents should control their children! Why are these kids still out on the streets at 3am?" an exasperated Ana asked.

Ana said the restaurant has been burglarized numerous times in its 24-year operation and they are in fact amassing quite a number of police report cards.

The sisters said that in all those previous burglaries, Saturday was only the second time they could remember when police made an arrest.



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## FIREARMS SAFETY

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Certified firearm instructor POII David Hosono facilitates the mandatory firearms safety education class at the Police Uniformed Services Center briefing room within the DPS Central Headquarters in Susupe Friday afternoon. According to Public Law 14-51, one must take this course before registering a firearm.

## Deportation sought vs woman with alleged expired IR permit

The Division of Immigration has sought the deportation of a 52-year-old woman whose Immediate Relative entry permit allegedly expired three years ago.

According to Immigration investigator Nicolas T. Reyes, Rhodora T. Tesero, a Filipino, has failed to comply with the terms of her entry and that she is a deportable alien pursuant to Commonwealth law and regulations.

Following the filing of the case, Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman ordered Tesero to appear in court on March 27, Thursday, to explain why she should not be de-


ported from the CNMI.

Reyes stated in his report that the respondent's IR entry permit that was issued June 18, 2004, expired on May 15, 2005.

Reyes said he received numerous calls from tipsters that Tesero is divorced from her husband, Jesus Tesero.

The investigator said Mrs. Tesero did not submit any application with Immigration Processing Section to update her Immigration status.

Reyes said that based upon his information, Mrs. Tesero has been staying with her children in Finasisu. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)




# Biofuel


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# Traffic cops start using 4 motorcycles anew

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section has started using its four motorcycles again for more effective enforcement and to reduce the department's fuel costs.

DPS Traffic Commander Sgt. Thomas Blas said the

four Kawasaki motorcycles had been repaired and are now back on the streets.

"That's a big thing for us, for the department as a whole because using the motorcycles out there...the agility of the motorcycles to conduct enforcement is very vital," Blas said.

Driving huge cars in traffic enforcement, he said, would

consume a lot of fuel compared to motorcycles.

"The motorcycles will help us in the fuel reduction costs," said the traffic commander.

Blas said minor maintenance problems were immediately conducted.

"But right now they're finally back and running and since [Wednesday] I started taking

them out for test runs and doing other enforcement," he said.

DPS Commissioner Claudio Norita said that motorcycle usage is very efficient for traffic enforcers because of the work they perform.

Norita said that for Patrol, the sports utility vehicles are more versatile in off road or back road trips.

"We don't have the paved roads like in the mainland across the board, so the use of SUVs or 4x4 [truck] is more prudent for them. For traffic officers, using motorcycles are

versatile in enforcing traffic laws," he pointed out.

"Getting in our traffic with motorcycles is easier. Traffic officers need to go out there and go back and forth and the use of motorcycles is cheaper in regards to operations," Norita added.

## Woman allegedly steals from poker arcade

The Attorney General's Office has filed a criminal complaint against a 40-year-old woman who allegedly stole money from a poker arcade.

Maria Christina Castro was charged with theft.

Chief Prosecutor Jeffery Warfield Sr. stated in the charging document that on Feb. 13, 2008, Castro stole \$560 cash from East Poker in Dandan.

Warfield did not provide more details about the incident.

In other court news, the Superior Court has found probable cause to warrant the filing of charges against a man who allegedly assaulted a neighbor with a piece of lumber and a spear gun.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman ordered Bernard Sebangiol to answer the charges of two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon.

Arraignment was set for tomorrow, Tuesday.

Police recently arrested Sebangiol for allegedly assaulting a male neighbor with a piece of lumber and a spear gun at a residence in Chalan Kanoa.

The victim was not hit, police said.

Meanwhile, Wiseman has released David D. Kapileo who was

arrested for allegedly assaulting a man and two Russian women in western Garapan last Feb. 22.

Wiseman ordered the temporary release after Kapileo submitted in court a signed appearance bond secured by a mortgaged property for his \$5,000 bail. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## SHRM announces upcoming scholarships

By **RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN**  
rienne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The CNMI Chapter of the Society of Human Resources Management Scholarship program will be awarding two lucky students with a \$500 scholarship each this year.

Interested individuals will have one month to complete and submit their application by May 30, 2008. Applications will be available starting April 1 and more information will be made available to the community in the coming days.

Another scholarship for children of national members of the SHRM is also up for grabs, which will end May 15, 2008.

The SHRM Sons & Daughters Scholarship program helps finance education for the chil-

dren of its members.

The program is independently managed by Scholarship America, a national, nonprofit education support and student aid service organization.

Aside from being a child of a national member of the SHRM, applicants must be high school seniors, high school graduates or first year college undergraduate enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time course of study at an accredited four-year college or university.

Awards are \$1,500 each and may only be used for the first or second year or undergraduate only.

Some 24 scholarships of the SHRMN Sons & Daughters Scholarship Program are awarded annually.

## DISCONNECTION NOTICE

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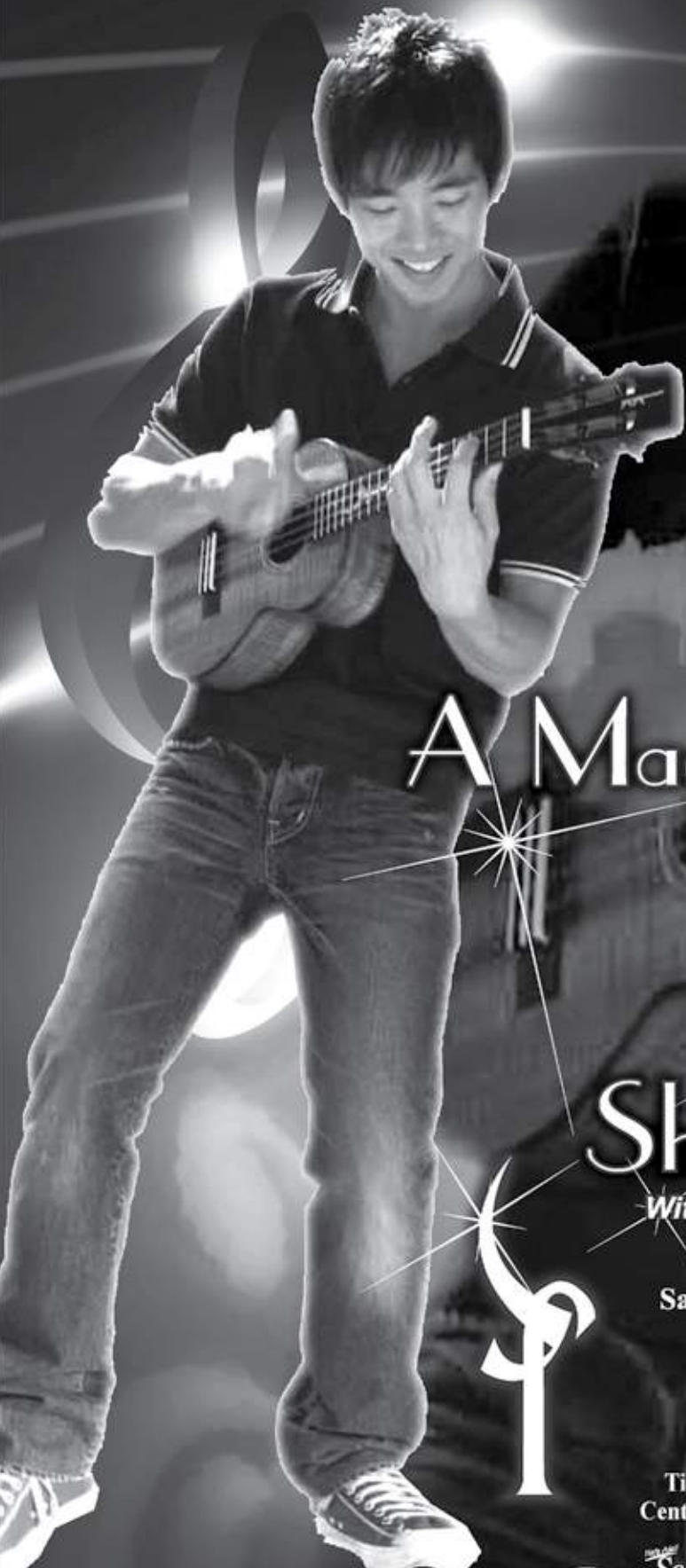
Per an earlier announcement, PTI is no longer mailing out past due notices as of 11/01/06.

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Century Hotel, Shell gas stations, Saipan Tribune.

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# House OKs bill making driving without a license a civil offense

The House of Representatives recently passed a bill that seeks to downgrade

driving without a license from a misdemeanor to a civil offense.

Authored by Rep. Rosemond B. Santos, H.B. 16-55 amends Title 9, Section 2201, making driving without a license “a civil infraction punishable by a fine of not more than \$50 for the first offense and more than \$100 for any second or subsequent offense. Any person assessed a civil fine under this subsection may, in lieu of appearing in court, pay the fine to the Clerk of Court prior to the court appearance date.” Under the current law, the penalty

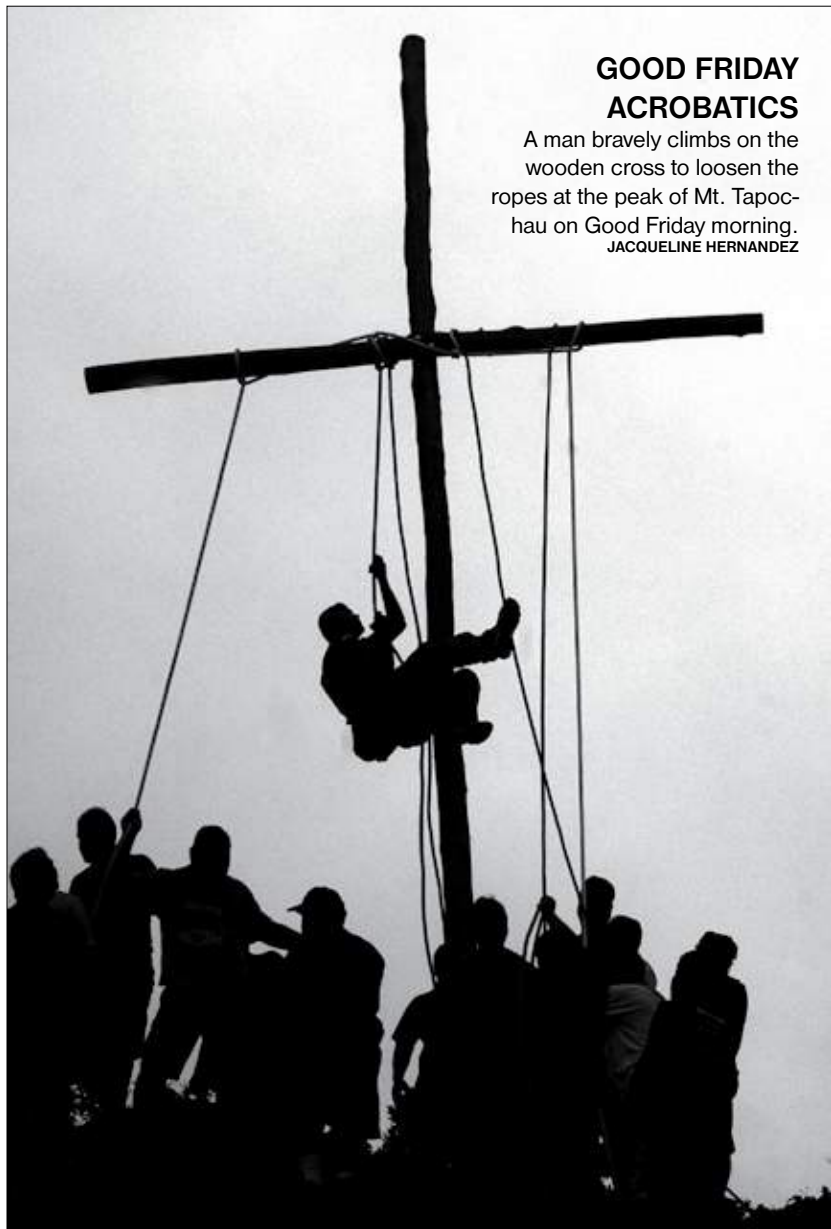
for driving without a license—either misplaced or left at home—is no different from drivers who intently operate vehicles in the Commonwealth without proper documentation.

Under Title 9, Section 2202, both offenders are charged with a misdemeanor and can be punished with not more than six months imprisonment or not more than \$500 fine, or both.

H.B. 16-55, according to the legislation, downgrades driving without a li-

cense to “a civil offense rather a misdemeanor due to the nature of the offense, the lack of victim, and the current cost to the court system in appointing attorneys to represent persons charged under the section.”

The bill now heads to the Senate and if approved by the upper chamber will be forwarded to the Governor’s Office for Gov. Benigno R. Fitial’s signature, the last step for the legislation to become law. *(Mark Rabago)*



## GOOD FRIDAY ACROBATICS

A man bravely climbs on the wooden cross to loosen the ropes at the peak of Mt. Tapochau on Good Friday morning.  
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

## DEATHS

From Page 1

Two of the soldiers were killed in the blast and the third died of wounds, the statement said. The soldiers were assigned to Multinational Division-Baghdad, the statement said, but gave no further details.

The latest deaths brought to 3,996 the number of U.S. service members and Pentagon civilians who have died since the war began on March 20, 2003, according to an Associated Press count. Rocket or mortar fire killed one U.S. soldier and wounded four others Friday south of Baghdad, the military said.

With the war entering its sixth year, President Bush paid tribute Saturday to America’s fallen service members, saying in his weekly radio address that they will “live on in the memory of the nation they helped defend.”

Speaking for the Democrats, however, Sen. Robert Menendez of New Jersey called on Bush to “face the reality” in Iraq and “tell us the truth” about the cost of the conflict as America is

struggling with a faltering economy and mounting casualty tolls.

U.S. officials have pointed to a number of positive signs, including a 60 percent drop in violence since Bush ordered 30,000 U.S. reinforcements to Iraq early last year. Iraqis have also made some limited progress in power-sharing deals among rival Shiite, Sunni and Kurdish communities.

However, U.S. military commanders have been careful to point out that security gains are fragile and that major violence could erupt abruptly.

Much of the progress has been due to a move by thousands of Sunnis to abandon the insurgency and join pro-U.S. defense groups—known as “awakening councils.” Another was a cease-fire called last August by firebrand Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, leader of the feared Mahdi Army militia.

On Saturday, a U.S. attack helicopter fired on two checkpoints manned by U.S.-allied Sunni fighters near Samarra, 60 miles north of Baghdad, killing six and injuring two, Iraqi police said.

The U.S. military said an AH-64 Apache helicopter fired on the posi-

tions after five people were “spotted conducting suspicious terrorist activity” in an area notorious for roadside bombs.

“Initial reports suggested the attack may have been a Sons of Iraq checkpoint,” the military said, using a term for the armed U.S.-backed groups. “The incident is currently under a joint Iraqi-Coalition Force investigation.”

A local official of the U.S.-backed group said the attack occurred about two hours after American soldiers stopped at the two checkpoints to meet the Sunni fighters.

“They asked us general questions like: ‘Have you gotten your IDs?’ and ‘Do you need anything?’ and then they left,” Sabbar al-Bazi told The Associated Press. “Two hours later, after I had gone home, I heard two explosions, probably caused by two missiles, and machine-gun fire from a helicopter.”

Lt. Col. Dhiya Mahmoud Ahmed, an Iraqi military officer in charge of security in the area, said he told the Americans after the attack that he had been aware of the friendly checkpoints for two days.

## 73 PERCENT

From Page 1

budget, appropriations for other expenditures total roughly \$43 million for FY2008.

Pangelinan (D-Saipan) said that since the CNMI government is in con-

tinuing resolution with no austerity measures in place, \$5.3 million of the \$7.2 million cost overruns the past six months since the start of the fiscal year (Oct. 1, 2007) have been expenses for personnel costs.

Another point of the House-passed budget that needs clarification, according to Pangelinan, is that department heads

are still receiving their salaries at the FY 2007 level, “contributing to additional spending in comparison to the governor’s estimate of total revenues for FY 2008. H.B. 16-51 does not address this.”

The report recommended that the budget bill be referred to a joint committee, which the Senate unanimously voted to adopt during its session

Wednesday.

The House passed the 2008 appropriations bill on March 3. It was introduced on Feb. 29 by House Way and Means chair Ray Yumul and earmarks \$164.25 million for all government agencies under the General Fund and \$3.23 million for the Department of Public Lands, which is funded by in-

come from leases on public lands.

In addition, the bill distributes \$5.117 million of Compact Impact funds, or reimbursement money from the federal government to the CNMI for hosting Micronesian citizens.

The budget will apply to the current fiscal year, which runs from Oct. 1, 2007 to Sept. 30, 2008.

## US

From Page 1

no attempt to evaluate the impact of the first 50 cent wage hike in 2007 or future increases on the living standards of working families in American Samoa and CNMI and as a result, “the report entirely fails to address one of the main issues that Congress required DOL to assess, thereby depriving residents of the two territories of the full information that they deserve.”

Miller and Kennedy described the report as “decidedly one-sided,” citing that DOL interviewed a limited number of government officials, business representatives and industry lobbyists. The two lawmakers said that these are not the only viewpoints it should have sought.

“The authors of the report did not obtain the views of workers, their non-government advocates, or organizations such as social services or churches that interact with working families on a regular basis,” said Miller and Kennedy in the letter. “This is an incredible oversight in a report on the impact of a labor policy on living standards and employment.”

The report also failed to indepen-

dently verify assertions and speculative statements made by business representatives and instead simply recorded and repeated their claims, according to the letter.

For example, they say for American Samoa, DOL had access to a long record of canneries’ testimony before the Special Industry Committee that any increase in wages would result in a curtailment of employment.

“Given that this testimony is directly contradicted by the fact that the canneries have reported ‘no’ discernible job losses in the wake of the July 2007 wage increase of 50 cents—the largest single increase in the history of American Samoa—the claims of future job losses due to future increases and the stated bases for such claims should have been carefully scrutinized,” said Miller and Kennedy.

The two lawmakers believe that if DOL had probed deeper into other cannery statements about the impact of minimum wage increases, it would have revealed further apparent contradictions warranting, at the very least, some further investigation.

Additionally, they say DOL didn’t request the appropriate data on profitability from the major employers in either territory to independently test

whether further minimum wage increases would likely cause closures or layoffs.

Miller and Kennedy say they are concerned that DOL failed to generate any new data on wage levels, cost of living, or employment conditions on the two territories.

In addition, they failed to determine whether the new wage hike is actually being paid and to evaluate the impact of the new wages on workers’ living standards and rates of employment.

“The people, businesses and governments of these two Pacific territories have a right to expect that the Department of Labor would make every effort to fully inform Congress of their present economic circumstances,” said Miller and Kennedy. “Regrettably, the department failed to undertake such an effort.”

The two lawmakers said that, while data shortfalls were to be expected given the status of data collection in the territories and the limited time to conduct the study, DOL’s report still failed to identify all of the relevant data shortfalls, as Congressional staff had requested, so that Congress would know how to focus its evaluation of the report and its subsequent inquiry.

In conclusion, Miller and Kennedy

said the report fails “to provide Congress with a complete, meaningful, and reliable analysis of an issue critical to the working families of American Samoa and the CNMI.”

A copy of their letter was sent to American Samoa Rep. Eni Faleomavaega. In a separate letter to Faleomavaega, Miller said that despite DOL’s failure, he will continue to work with Faleomavaega on these matters of critical importance to American Samoa.

“I know we share a common concern that the people of the territories receive fair and decent wages for their labor and that the economies of these territories grow and diversify in a sustainable way,” he added.

Faleomavaega wrote to Gov. Togiola Tulafono and the Fono and shared with them the letter by Miller and Kennedy to Secretary Chao as well as Miller’s letter to him.

Faleomavaega said that in his meeting with top staffers of both Miller and Kennedy, there was consensus that the DOL report didn’t provide enough specific data and information to address the serious issues whether another increase on wages would negatively impact the standard of living and the cost of living of our workers, especially those who do not work for the local government.”

“No other leaders in Congress know more about the rights of working men and women throughout the United States and its territories than Chairman Miller and Chairman Kennedy,” he said.

Faleomavaega said he and U.S. Sens. Jeff Bingaman, Daniel Inouye, Daniel Akaka have written a joint letter to Senate Appropriations Committee chair Robert Byrd to amend the current [minimum wage] law when it comes up on the Appropriations Supplemental bill in May.”

“Essentially, I’ve tried to work out a compromise language so that at least for the next two years we will get DOL to do a more comprehensive review of the economies of both territories,” he said. “Until we know for sure, it is very difficult to determine if another increase in wages of 50-cents is commensurate with the economies of American Samoa and the CNMI.”

Faleomavaega suggested that local leaders review carefully the letter from Miller and Kennedy for further discussion.

“As indicated in their letters, the bottom line is we need more specific data and information before we put a hold on another 50-cent increase on our minimum wage,” he said. *(Mark Rabago)*





JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Participants make warm fuzzy bags during a family group session of the Teen Talk Youth Summit at the Chacha Oceanview Junior High School in Kagman Wednesday.

## Youth: Not community problems but assets

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs says that the youth are not community problems, but community assets and resources.

DCCA acting Secretary Melvin Faisao addressed the youth during their two-day Teen Talk Youth Summit last week, where he stressed that through empowerment "youths are afforded with opportunities to develop the competencies they need to become successful contributors of their communities."

"Youth empowerment and development are an ongoing process of human growth and development; it is a framework for youth that focuses in their capacities, strengths and developmental needs," Faisao said.

Students from ChaCha Ocean View Jr. High School, Hopwood Jr. High, Northern Marianas Academy, Grace Christian Academy, Seventh Day Adventist School, Kagman High School, Saipan

Southern High School, Marianas High School, and Tinian Jr. & Sr. High School took part in the first Teen Talk Youth Summit held Wednesday and Thursday.

The purpose of the summit was to develop important life skills, address teen issues, and to build upon teen leadership and empowerment.

Faisao said that the department is committed to helping the Commonwealth's children realize their full potential by expanding opportunities in mentorship programs.

"I strongly believe that by encouraging mentorship programs, we are doing our part to see that more of the Commonwealth's children grow up into strong, confident, and successful adults," Faisao said.

The two-day event was hosted by the CNMI Public School System and Division of Youth Services. (Rianne Pangelinan-Brown)

## Fishing ban zone in NMI waters OK'd

By **RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN**  
rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council has unanimously voted to establish a 30 nautical mile longline fishing exclusion zone in the exclusive economic zone surrounding the CNMI.

This decision remains on hold, though, after WESPAC failed to give proper notice of the meeting with the Federal Register prior to the event. This means that the Council must redo their March 17-18 meeting all over again.

The Council will meet again in Honolulu to vote anew on all actions items. The new meeting is expected to be shorter, with minimal discussion, full oppor-

tunity for public comment, and then voting.

The CNMI Council members and members of the Council advisory committees recommended the 30 nm longline fishing exclusion zone to protect the small scale troll fisheries in the CNMI, simultaneously encouraging the development of a locally-based longline history.

The Council will also meet in June 2008 and consider establishing a control date of March 20, 2008, which may be used in the future to limit further entry of longline vessels to fish around the US EEZ waters surrounding the CNMI.

The Council has also announced its support of the CNMI government's request that a master-fisherman of the Secretariat

of the Pacific Community assist CNMI-based longline vessels in improving their performance and to provide more information on the potential of pelagic resources in the US EEZ surrounding the Marianas Archipelago.

WESPAC concluded its 140th council meeting at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Friday morning.

The Council is the policy-making agency for fisheries management in federal waters surrounding the state of Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the CNMI, and the US Pacific remote island areas.

Council members 2008 include Department of Lands and Natural Resources secretary Ignacio Dela Cruz and Republican Party Precinct 4 chairman Benigno Sablan.



UNITED STATES COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Office of the Resident Representative to the United States

2121 R Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20008 • Phone (202) 673-5869 • Fax: (202) 673-5873 • E-mail: rep@resrep.gov.mp

PEDRO P. TENORIO  
Resident Representative



### A Covenant Day Message from Your Resident Representative

*My Dear People of the Northern Marianas:*

*Thirty-two years ago, the "Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America," was signed into law (US Public Law 94-241) by President Gerald R. Ford. We, the people of this Commonwealth were welcomed as new family members by a great Nation that recognized our right for self-determination and self-government.*

*We are proud and patriotic United States citizens and we celebrate our patriotism on this 24th day of March, 2008. On this day too, we must take a moment to remember those members of the Marianas Political Status Commission to whom we owe deep respect and gratitude for their foresight in making our people citizens of the greatest nation in all of history. Let our commemoration of this unique and special agreement be a tool that unifies us all and helps us to build a stronger, more prosperous community.*

*A Blessed Covenant Day to All!*

  
Pedro Agulto Tenorio

Resident Representative to the United States

District Office

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



## Request for Proposal RFP 08-013

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for services to be rendered under the MHS Safe Haven Program. **The Marianas High School Safe Haven Program is a unique program with the goal of providing a safe, clean environment for after school hours, weekends, and summer vacations for organized and open sports and fitness activities.**

Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 08-013" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than March 28, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "RFP 08-013, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1) original and one (1) copy). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Carl de la Cruz, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via the following e-mail address: [delacruz@pss.cnmi.mp](mailto:delacruz@pss.cnmi.mp).

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid CNMI Business License.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/s/ **Dr. David M. Borja, D.B.A.**  
**Commissioner of Education**

/s/ **Carl F. de la Cruz, M.B.A.**  
**Acting P & S Officer**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



## Invitation For Bid IFB 08-026

The Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the purchase, delivery, and installation of **Computers, Accessories, Cameras, LCD Projectors, and LCD Screens for Dandan Elementary School and San Vicente Elementary School.** Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All bids shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "IFB 08-026" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, no later than **April 9, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "IFB 08-026, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and one (1)-copy). Any bid after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Carl de la Cruz, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: [delacruz@pss.cnmi.mp](mailto:delacruz@pss.cnmi.mp).

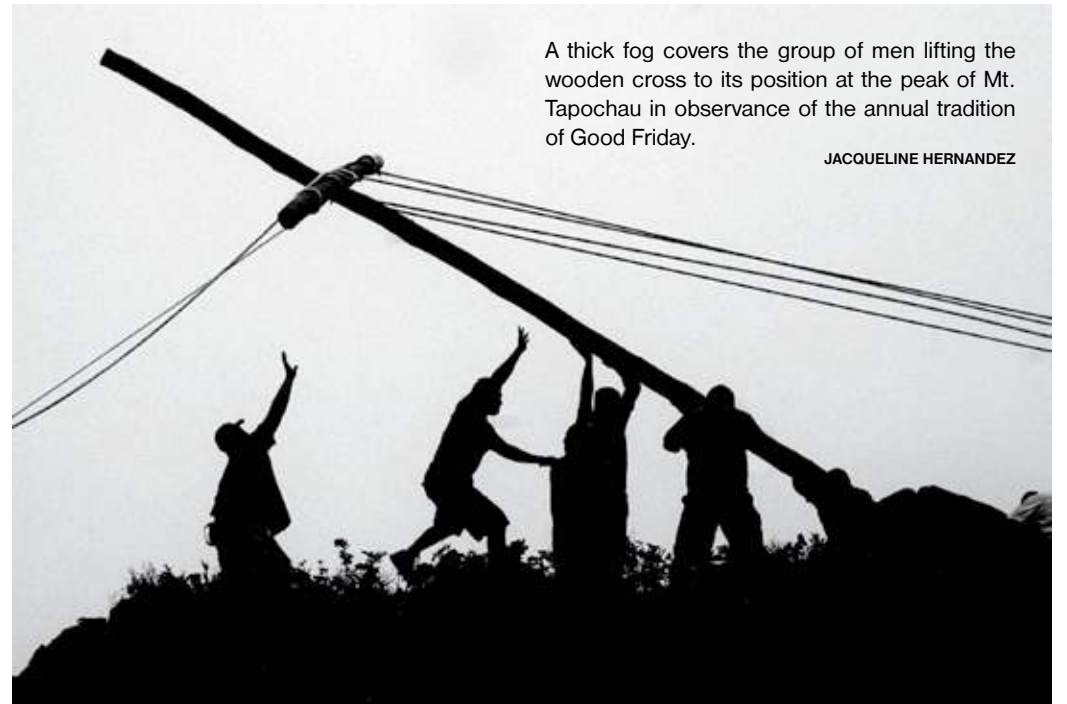
The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Public School System.

/s/ **Dr. David M. Borja, D.B.A.**  
**Commissioner of Education**

/s/ **Carl F. de la Cruz**  
**Acting P&S Officer**

# Island Snapshots



A thick fog covers the group of men lifting the wooden cross to its position at the peak of Mt. Tapochau in observance of the annual tradition of Good Friday.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



Catholic devotees light up incense and candles as they offer prayers at the peak of Mt. Tapochau on Good Friday morning.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



A boy watches the long line of devotees snaking toward the statue of Christ at the peak of Mt. Tapochau.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

The statue of Christ welcomes hundreds of Catholic devotees to the peak of Mt. Tapochau.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ





# ‘Help Miura’ t-shirts eyed to fund defense

A Japanese businessman on Saipan wants to help Kazuyoshi Miura with his extradition case and is planning to come up with t-shirts that he will sell, with part of the proceeds going toward a Miura defense fund.

Keizo Ishida, general manager of the Anies Imuza gift shop, said he is compelled to help Miura because what is happening reflects badly on the Japanese judicial system.

“Miura was found not guilty by the Tokyo High Court in 1998, with the full support of the U.S. government. Yet he was arrested on Saipan and he is still locked up until now,” said Ishida, speaking through an interpreter. “If this kind of unfairness is acceptable, then our Japan judicial system will be useless.”

He pointed out that Miura has already been found not guilty in Japan, so his arrest implies that the Japanese high court made the wrong decision in the case. “Because of this matter, I am planning to support Mr. Miura’s lawyer[s] on Saipan and Los Angeles,” he said.

Ishida said he came up with this idea of making the Miura t-shirts and donating part of the sale to Miura’s lawyers.

He said he has already written to Miura to broach the idea but he has yet to obtain a response. “I am currently waiting for Mr. Miura’s official approval through his lawyers to sell the t-shirts.”

Ishida said that, as soon as he gets Miura’s go-signal, he will immediately get to work on the t-shirts.

He plans to sell the shirts for about \$18, with \$8 going toward the cost of producing the shirts. The remaining \$10 will be split, with \$5 going to the Miura legal defense fund.

“Our goal is to sell about

Japanese businessman Keizo Ishida, right, and Taotao Tano president Greg Cruz hold up the t-shirt that Ishida is planning to produce to help Kazuyoshi Miura with his legal defense.

1,000 t-shirts and give \$5,000 to the lawyers of Mr. Miura,” Ishida said.

Ishida showed the *Saipan Tribune* a sample of the shirt he plans to sell. Colored orange, it features the face of Miura in front, while the back shows the acronym DOC and the words “double jeopardy” in both English and Japanese languages. The sentence “Can you help!!!” in capital letters is printed on the sleeve.

Taotao Tano CNMI Inc. president Greg Cruz said he supports Ishida’s goals, as “this is about the honor and reputation of his country.”

“Because of the federal issue here, a lot of bad things have been said about our homeland, a lot of reputation has been created all the way to the U.S. mainland; that’s the reason why I’m fighting, that reputation that has been left in our homeland. I support Mr. Ishida because I believe in what he’s fighting for, it’s all about honor,” said Cruz.

Miura was arrested at the Saipan International Airport on Feb. 22, 2008, in the murder of his wife in Los Angeles 27 years ago.

Miura, 60, had already been convicted in Japan in 1994 of the murder of his wife, Kazumi Miura. The verdict, however, was overturned by Japan’s high courts 10 years ago.

The case has been revived, resulting in Miura’s latest arrest and efforts by the Los Angeles Police Department to extradite him to the U.S. mainland.

(*Saipan Tribune*)

## Group seeks homestead list

Local advocacy group Taotao Tano CNMI Inc. has requested the Commonwealth’s Homestead Program to provide a list of homestead applicants that have been granted lots the past two years.

In an Open Government Act request, Taotao Tano president Gregorio Cruz Jr. asked the Division of Homestead Programs the list of homestead lots approved in the past 24 months.

“As you may be aware we are currently looking into public land issues here. Since you are the new head of the Homestead Programs we would like to obtain under the Open Government Act Public Law 8-41 a list of all homestead applicants that were granted a homestead lot in the past 24 months (two years),” said Cruz in a letter to the agency addressed to Mr. Rabauliman.

He added that the request should include applicants that

were granted a lot from previously revoked homesteads or vacant lots.

Taotao Tano, a group made up of mostly indigenous people, has drawn both praise and contempt from local community members since its formation just a few months ago.

While some see Taotao Tano as the voice of the marginalized, others frown on the group’s often belligerent approach.

This past week alone, Taotao Tano has requested the Office of Public Auditor to audit the Department of Public Lands and the defunct Marianas Public Land Authority, criticized House Speaker Arnold Palacios over his comments that blamed the Senate for the problems now besetting the government-run utility, and sided with House Ways and Means chair Ray Yumul that Legislative Bureau staff should be converted to civil service employees. (*Mark Rabago*)





COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Second Floor, Afetna Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan MP 96950

Telephone no. (670) 236-0956/0957 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0995



NOTICE OF HEARINGS

PENDING DENIAL APPEALS

Monday, Mar. 24, 2008 first notice

Monday, Mar. 31, 2008 second notice

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Hearing Office, Department of Labor, Second Floor, Afetna Square Building, San Antonio, on the date and at the time listed below. Please bring any documentation necessary to resolve the issues that led to the denial of your permit application. If you fail to appear or fail to bring required documentation, the appeal may be dismissed and an administrative order may be entered against you. Any employee who intends to request permission to transfer to a new employer must appear at the hearing to make that request; failure to appear may result in immediate denial of transfer relief.

Case No.	Employee	Employer	Hearing date	Time
DC 08-053	Fernandez, Hergin P.	4D Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-061	Rocil, Evelyn N.	Abba Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-041	Tapang, Restituto C.	Ablog, Nestor R.	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-042	Pantola, Lorenzo N.	Ablog, Nestor R.	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-008	Valiente, Ma Eden T.	Active Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-023	Anareta, Alfredo P.	Agulto, Frankie	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-035	Callanga, Melanie B.	Anulao, Arthur S.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-009	He, Jianchu	Asia Pacific United Dev. Inc.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-022	Raymundo, Pinky A.	Azucenas, Renato G.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-014	Jucutan, Eduardo D.	Baitlon, Noel M.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-015	Lucero, Arlo G.	Bisnes Mami Inc.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-027	Asakit, Chai	Cabrera, Joaquin S.	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-029	San Gabriel, Gener R.	Cabrera, Virginia	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-037	Geneblazo, Danilo S.	Camacho, Anita A.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-013	Zhu, Juan	Castro, Xiao Mei Feng	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-068	Cruz, Joel A.	Crystal Water Corp.	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-016	Ebuen, Bernie E.	D L Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-062	Soriano, Richard G.	Double J Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-064	Ragadi, Gemma L.	Double J Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-065	Arangorin, Manolo A.	Double J Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-040	Jiang, Huishu	Future World Inc.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-012	Napitan, Cesar B.	Golden Key Saipan Inc.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-017	Osorio, Jose G.	Graphics Inc.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-090	Livado, Abner A.	Inter Pacific Resort Corp.	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-018	Dantic, Ronald C.	JOS Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-038	Pak, Yong Jong	L And Y Corp.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-007	Rivera, Agnes M.	Ladrangan, Cesar	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-021	Ejorcadas, Clarito B.	Micronesia Woodcraft Ent., Inc.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-005	Salonoy, Mamerto M.	Milne & Reyes Enterprises	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-028	Remigio, Alvin A.	New Shintani Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-011	He, Juhua	Pacific Horizon, Ltd.	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-087	Villaflores, Lawrence R.	Pacific Blue Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-030	Bucad, Henry G.	Pfafflin, Ronald/Josephine	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-046	Roque, Joseph M.	R & CA Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-047	Ngitiyeb, Leonardo B.	R & CA Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-048	Japo, Alex R.	R & CA Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-003	Fami, Tessie T.	Santos, Vicente M.	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-058	Argabioso, Wilma M.	SBR Ent. Inc.	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-059	Sabugo, Felicidad S.	SBR Ent. Inc.	Apr. 03, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-019	Cai, Zhen	Zheng Shi Corporation	Apr. 03, 2008	9:00 a.m.



## A GLIMPSE OF THE PAST

### Looking back at the Mariana Islands the past 62 years

PHOTO BY DMS

From left, Dave Sablan, president of Saipan Beach Intercontinental Hotel; Father (now Bishop) Tomas A. Camacho, pastor of Mt. Carmel Church; Mrs. Patience Canham and Resident Commissioner Erwin Canham upon arrival for the grand opening of the Saipan Beach Intercontinental Hotel on July 26, 1976. Note the background shown in this photo without any development is now the Paseo de Marianas.



## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

### March 24, 2000

#### CNMI joins fight vs Internet fraud

With Northern Marianas residents accounting for big volume of imported items purchased from the mainland United States through electronic commerce, the CNMI government is joining hands with close to 20 countries in a global fight against Internet shopping scam. This effort is the largest ever international law enforcement project aimed at discouraging e-commerce swindlers from victimizing an emerging market of millions of Internet shoppers around the world.

#### Trade programs in NMC urged

In line with the government's economic diversification and revitalization plans, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday underscored the value of institutionalizing academic programs aimed at developing local skills on trade and business management. Mr. Tenorio challenged Northern Marianas College officials and faculty to take aggressive steps in improving trade and vocational programs offered at the Commonwealth's only higher-learning institution.

#### CPA revenues in Feb. up 11%

Fueled by the sharp increase in its earnings from non-aviation operations, last month's revenues generated by the Commonwealth Ports Authority's airport division jumped 11 percent to \$1.1 million from year ago's \$946,179. International air transport players continue to take advantage of the Airline Incentive Program, pitching in another four percent increase in the overall airport revenues for the month ending February 29.

### March 24, 2003

#### 'Covenant doesn't exempt NMI from federal wire fraud'

The Covenant granting self-governance to the CNMI does not make the federal wire fraud statute inapplicable to the islands. This was how the U.S. Attorney's Office debunked the claim of embattled senators Ricardo Atalig and Jose M. Dela Cruz that their indictments on 26 criminal counts of wire fraud and a count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud violated the Covenant's provisions on self-government that includes independence of the CNMI Legislature. Dela Cruz's daughter, Marjorie, also stands charged with the same offenses in federal court.

#### Domestic abuse cases higher than reported

The reported number of domestic violence cases in the Northern Marianas remains less than the actual numbers due to refusal of spouses to file formal complaints against their abusive husbands. Prosecution cases against abusers remain below the actual numbers and only a few are being meted out with corresponding sentences, a report on domestic abuse in the Commonwealth disclosed.

#### DPS monitors NMI situation

The Department of Public Safety disclosed Friday that efforts are being undertaken to closely monitor the situation in the Middle East after coalition forces began its bombardment of Iraq Thursday last week. The police department is closely coordinating its monitoring efforts with various agencies involved in security like the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the Transportation Security Administration, and the Homeland Security department.

### March 24, 2004

#### Partial CHC privatization urged

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is pushing for the partial privatization of the Commonwealth Health Center to get the island's lone hospital current with the business aspects of its operations. According to Chamber President Alex Sablan, a private company should take on a portion of CHC's operations so it could concentrate on the delivery of healthcare, especially for the indigent populace.

#### NMC wants to abandon La Fiesta power plant

Faced with huge losses arising from the maintenance cost of the La Fiesta shopping complex, the Northern Marianas College is asking the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to take over the operation of the mall's power plant. In essence, the college aims to just purchase power directly from CUC. The proposal, however, was not acted on by the CUC board, which held a special meeting Monday, citing lack of information from the college.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Neighborhood Watch sets islandwide meeting tomorrow

The newly created Municipal Neighborhood Watch Task Force will be hosting an islandwide meeting for all Saipan residents tomorrow, March 25, to address the rising criminality in villages.

The meeting, co-hosted by the Office of the Mayor of Saipan and the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, will be held at 6pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center on Beach Road in Susupe.

The Task Force will gather preliminary areas of concern about the increasing number of criminal activities in the villages of Saipan. A series of nightly meetings will be held soon.

Do you want to be a volunteer crime fighter in your village? Attend this important meeting and let your interest and voice be heard. (PR)

### 6th Annual Covenant Day debate

The CNMI Humanities Council is sponsoring a debate this Wednesday, March 26, as part of activities celebrating Covenant Day.

The debate will be held from 6:30pm to 8pm at the Visitors Center Theater of the American Memorial Park. It is free of charge.

Top student debaters in the junior high and high school divisions will debate the pros and cons of having non-U.S. citizens serve on CNMI juries.

The Council sponsors this event each year, in conjunction with the National Forensic League and Middle School Forensic League, to foster skills in research, critical thinking and debate and to allow students to examine important Covenant-related issues that affect life in the Commonwealth. (PR)

### Junior High Mock Trial set

The CNMI Humanities Council will be hosting a Junior High Mock Trial on Saturday, March 29, 9am to noon at the U.S. District Court chamber, Horiguchi Building, Garapan.

Six junior high school teams will participate in a non-competitive trial presided over by Rep. Joseph Camacho (R-Saipan).

This program, started by the council two years ago, is intended to introduce junior high school students to the mock trial program in an enjoyable format to prepare them for the competitive mock trial program that they will encounter in high school.

### Let Freedom Sing festival set

The CNMI's cultural diversity will take center stage during the Let Freedom Sing festival on March 29-30, 10am to 5pm daily at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The festival will showcase live performances of ethnic songs and demonstrations of cultural practices and traditions.

### Article XII online forum

The CNMI Humanities Council is hosting an online forum, moderated by Dr. Elizabeth D. Rechebei, on issues that relate to Article XII of the CNMI Constitution.

Article XII is the provision that restricts land ownership in the CNMI to persons of Northern Marianas descent.

The public is invited to express their thoughts on a variety of Article XII topics via this forum at: <http://www.nmihumanities.org/forum3/>.

Contact Council staff at 235-4785 for further details.

### Live-fire training on Farallon today

The Emergency Management Office and the U.S. Naval Forces

Marianas Guam said that the U.S. military would be conducting live-fire training on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla today, March 21, from 7am to 12am.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, EMO is advising the public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and dates indicated.

For more information, contact the EMO Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. (EMO)

### Positions open for GOP national convention

The CNMI Republican Party is pleased to announce the availability of the following positions for interested individuals from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to participate in the upcoming Republican National Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota from Sept. 1 to 5, 2008.

The following programs are available:

- Page program—applicant must be at least 16-25 years old;
- Intern program—applicant must be currently enrolled at any postsecondary educational institution; and
- Delegate aide—applicant must be able to assist the delegation and be at all meetings called by the chairman.

All expenses to attend the RNC convention must be the responsibility of the applicant.

Interested individuals must submit a letter of intent, resume, and complete an application. Deadline is April 15, 2008.

Final selection will be made by the RNC Committee on Arrangements. Submit the required documents through email at [anatergeyo@gmail.com](mailto:anatergeyo@gmail.com). (PR)

### Petition to graduate deadline extended

The Northern Marianas College has extended the deadline for the submission of petitions to graduate for Spring 2008. The new deadline is March 28, 2008. Any questions or concerns regarding the Spring 2008 graduation can be addressed to Rosaline Cepeda, Acting Director of the Office of Admissions and Records, at 234-5498 ext 1540 or email [rosalinec@nmcnet.edu](mailto:rosalinec@nmcnet.edu).

### Flame Tree Arts Festival registration opens

Registration is now open until April 17, 2008, for the 27th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival. Registration forms are available at the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture on Capital Hill, Saipan. Registration costs are \$650/food and business vendors, \$350/non-profit, \$150/artists, and \$100/information. The Flame Tree Arts Festival will be held April 24-27, 2008, at Civic Center and is Micronesia's largest annual arts and culture celebration. For more information about the Flame Tree Arts Festival, contact CCAC at 670-322-9982/3 or e-mail [marianasarts@pticom.com](mailto:marianasarts@pticom.com).

### MHS Class of '88 meeting

Members of the Marianas High School Class of 1988 are reminded that there will be a meeting on Thursday, March 27, 2008, at 6:30pm, at the residence of Melvin and Eleanor Cepeda in As Lito behind Saipan International School. All classmates are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

For more information, contact Lillian Lizama Tudela at 287-3742 or Dennis Villagomez at 287-4689. (PR)



Pacific

Tonga minister disciplined for fund's misuse

NUKU'ALOFA, Tonga (Ma-tangi Tonga/PIR)—Tonga Minister of Tourism Fineasi Funaki was last night ordered by Prime Minister Feleti Sevele to work

without pay for three months as a penalty for his illegal depositing into his personal account of a 3,000 pa'anga [US\$1,470] check that was donated by the Chinese

Pacific trade accords questioned

SUVA, Fiji (Fiji Times/PIR)—Pacific governments are being pressured to sign free trade agreements with Australia and New Zealand that will cause profound and lasting damage to Pacific societies, says a non-government organization.

This follows media reports the International Monetary Fund [IMF] was of the strong view that at least one of the two crucial regional trade agreements Fiji was obliged to follow, "will lead to major revenue losses."

The IMF said it was forecasting duty revenue losses in the vicinity of FJ\$150 million (US\$101 million) a year for countries like Fiji.

PANG [Pacific Network on Globalization] coordinator Roshni Sami said comments from the IMF showed just how

much the Pacific's trade and development agenda is being set by the priorities of rich nations like Australia and NZ.

"Reports commissioned by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat also indicate that signing these trade agreements will mean Pacific governments will have less money to spend on their peoples, on essential public services like health and education," Sami said. "Signing PACER (Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations) now would also lead to the closure of local businesses and rising unemployment in the Pacific Islands."

Sami said the EPA (Economic Partnership Agreement) with the EU and PACER are both designed to benefit corporations in developed countries, not to improve development in the Pacific.

Cooks newspaper changes hands

RAROTONGA, Cook Islands (Cook Islands News/PIR)—A change of ownership took place at Cook Islands News yesterday.

Editor John Woods and his wife Liz, the advertising manager, have acquired the interest of Phil and Wendy Evans.

The national daily newspaper is now jointly owned by the Woods with existing partner and shareholder Lawrance Bailey, a former editor of CINews.

The former government newspaper was privatized in 1989 when Bailey and the Evans formed Cook Islands News Ltd.

Over the past 18 years the newspaper has consolidated itself as the primary news source in the country, providing market saturation in Rarotonga.

The business has 18 full-

time staff, its own purpose-built premises in Taputapuatea, advanced computer networks and systems, and two Heidelberg printing presses.

The company website—www.cookislandsnews.com—is one of the most popular websites in the country, getting more than 1.5 million hits per month.

Woods says the company plans a number of development projects, but its priority is to maintain strong daily news coverage.

The staff has been retained in the venture, and there will be new job opportunities in the near future.

Phil and Wendy Evans plan to retire from what has been a hectic 18 years running a morning daily newspaper.

Embassy to the Ministry.

The decision followed a public uproar after a letter of complaint on the matter from the CEO of the Ministry of Tourism, Edgar Cocker to the Prime Minister was leaked to the press earlier this year. When the letter became a public topic of discussion, the Cabinet passed a decision for the Auditor General to investigate the allegation.

The Auditor General's report went to the Prime Minister last week, with a recommendation that the Minister should resign.

The Minister of Information Afu'alo Matoto said yesterday

afternoon that, "the Prime Minister made the final decision, but he consulted the king and the Cabinet before he made the announcement on TV and Radio Tonga yesterday evening."

The Prime Minister stated that he made his decision based on a number of factors that were highlighted in the report:

■ That the minister did not secretly deposit the donation in his account. Instead he discussed it with his staff;

■ The purpose for depositing the donation in his account was for the ease of withdrawing it whenever they needed petty

cash, because to give it to the Treasury, he said would take them a very long time to get petty cash money;

■ There was no intention to cheat;

■ That the practice was illegal.

The Prime Minister said that after weighing up all those factors he decided that a fair punishment would be for the Minister to work without pay for three months.

The Minister of Information, Afu'alo Matoto, explained that the Minister's monthly salary was about 4,000 pa'anga [US\$1,960], so his total salary loss will be 12,000 pa'anga

[US\$5,880]. Ministers are paid with two sets of salaries, one for their ministerial post and the other from parliament as members of parliament. The Minister of Tourism will lose both.

Afu said that Cabinet Ministers are paid only their basic salaries from the House, and they are paid fortnightly, "unlike elected members who are paid in a lump sum following the opening of parliament."

With regards to other complaints about the CEO, one of his deputies and five others in the Ministry, the Prime Minister said that their cases would be dealt with by the Public Service Commission, but he would have to have a look at it before a decision was made public.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
IMMIGRATION DIVISION

Second floor, Afetna Square Building, San Antonio, Saipan MP 96950



PUBLIC NOTICE

OVERSTAYERS REPORT

Monday, March 24, 2008, first notice

Monday, March 31, 2008, second notice

Notice is hereby given that according to the records maintained by the Commonwealth, as of March 1, 2008, the following persons have overstayed the permission granted upon their entry to the Commonwealth for employment purposes. Persons in an overstayer status are required to depart the Commonwealth immediately. Persons who depart the Commonwealth voluntarily are eligible to return; those who are deported are not eligible to return.

Permissions granted upon entry may have been extended or the entry status may be changed under a number of different provisions of Commonwealth law, but all extensions and changes must be documented and the applicable fees paid. If the necessary applications and supporting documents have not been correctly completed or filed or recorded, a name may appear in overstayer status although upon completion or recording of the necessary documentation an extension will be granted.

If your name is on the list set out below and you have or should have a current permission or a current status allowing you to be in the Commonwealth, please report to Jeff Camacho, Chief, Enforcement Section, Department of Labor, second floor, Afetna Square Building, San Antonio before April 10, 2008 to correct the records.

Name	LIIDS No.
Abuel, Lourdes Q.	125740
Acuerdo, Rovelyn B.	189784
Agasa, Jesus P.	108671
Alagao, Gallardo A.	155896
An, Hongmei	176311
Angeles, Williamito S.	173537
Ansary, Melissa Agbayani	184735
Awitan, Nestor O.	155898
Baybayan, Mariano P.	173844
Cao, Qin Fen	156571
Cas, Alejandro C.	155907
Cataluna, Leoncia F.	120754
Cheng, Jing Gui	147636
Cister, Bonifacio P.	127652
Cruz, Imelda T.	116883
Cuenca, Abundio	119116
Cui, Xiangyu	191523
Dancel, Rogelio T.	161775
Dela Torres, Mary Ann	108716
Dong, Qing Qi	152377
Efe, Rodolfo	149164
Elises, Teresito P.	155895
Esguerra, Johnny C.	100392
Fan, Qin	157179
Gita, Joselito O.	106852
Glos, Leny B.	103322
Guo, Xiuying	150951
He, Baoming	156016
Hong, Shanyu	135816
Hossain, Motahar	131012
Hu, Ying	181025
Huang, Zhao Ju	136419
Hur, Chang D.	120265
Jian, Zhou Kai	143400
Jimera, Isidro P.	108462
Jin, Dongjun	171966
Jin, Heyun	149804
Jin, Shengjie	160669
Jin, Yuan Zhen	152580
Jose, Flordeliz	115777
Li, Guangchun	135833
Li, Shan	106697
Li, Xianglu	153312

Name	LIIDS No.
Li, Yuhong	158282
Liu, Dong Fan	195626
Liu, Fushu	171968
Macaso, Rosalie	121812
Maribbay, Edmon M.	173842
Medianista, Sonet	159192
Montano, Angelina C.	109333
Nam, Ki Suk	144172
Nan, Meilan	152496
Paling, Antipas T.	
Pangan, Fe M.	145394
Paz, Carmelo F.	120854
Penuliar, Ernesto A.	182596
Piao, Meishun	151522
Pimjaksin, Arunya	175638
Pring, Fortunato Luna	125104
Ramos, Andreo S.	141557
Reolegio, Rommel C.	158262
Reyes, Ronaldo H.	147579
Rosete, Renhar M.	144689
Sanchez, Mauro C. Jr.	108597
Santos, Cristeta L.	132940
Shen, Dongzhu	160672
Shen, Wei Ming	148746
Shi, Hongmei	153250
Sia, Aurea Perez	174997
Torculas, Catherine	111326
Tubera, Wilson	126744
Villanueva, Esmeralda A.	103190
Wang, Ai Ying	153381
Weng, Longxi	159330
Wu, Xue Dan	170555
Xue, Yuguan	171440
Yang, Yunfei	172410
Yao, Liyan	122396
Yao, Yijing	143743
Yu, Zhong Ping	281815
Zhang, Guohua	146470
Zhang, Xiao Qin	112496
Zhang, Yong Shi	142085
Zhao, Juan	203492
Zheng, Zhipeng	159328

PACIFIC BRIEFS

Manufacturer cuts work hours in Samoa

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—Almost half of Yazaki EDS Samoa Ltd's workforce of 2,200 will work four-day work weeks for the next two weeks. The General Manager of research and development, Funefea'i Oliva Va'ai, says the company has been forced to reduce working hours because one of its customers has reduced its orders. Funefei said orders have dropped dramatically and 200 people will have nothing to do if the work hours are not reduced.

Niue official says New Zealand tight with money

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (NiuFM News/PIR)—The Deputy Premier of Niue says it's frustrating that New Zealand isn't being very forthcoming with funding for the Pacific Leaders Forum that the island nation is hosting this August. Fisa Pihigia, who is currently in New Zealand, says Niue had earlier been promised money from the government to help. Pihigia said it needs cash rather than equipment. Pihigia is encouraging expats from Niue to return home to volunteer during the forum, and is also asking for people to donate money. A spokesperson for the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Winston Peters, says money is being provided to help Niue host the forum.



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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### EDITORIAL

## Fantasies on Iraq

The fifth anniversary of the invasion of Iraq prompted a flurry of speeches from President Bush and the Democratic candidates who hope to inherit the White House next year. Sadly, what they had in common was their failure to grapple with hard realities — beginning with the elusiveness of any clear or quick path toward Mr. Bush's promise of "victory," or that of Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama to "end this war."

Mr. Bush's address dwelt on the success of the initial military campaign of March 2003, then skipped ahead to the "surge" of the last year. The president deservedly claimed credit for launching the latter campaign, which has drastically reduced the level of violence in Iraq. But he went on to claim that, more than turning "the situation in Iraq around," the surge "has opened the door to a major strategic victory in the broader war on terror." That sounded at best premature, given the tenuousness of the security gains and the slowness of Iraqi leaders to strike political deals that could truly stabilize the country.

The president at least recognizes, from "hard experience," how quickly progress in Iraq can unravel. This week he pledged not to order troop withdrawals beyond the five brigades due to return home by this summer unless "conditions on the ground and the recommendations of our commanders" warrant it. That means that if Mr. Obama or Ms. Clinton become president, he or she will be the commander in chief of at least 100,000 U.S. troops in Iraq. Yet their speeches suggest an understanding of the conflict and the stakes for the United States that is as detached from reality as they accuse Mr. Bush of being when he decided on the invasion.

Barely acknowledging the reduction in violence, the Democratic candidates insist that U.S. troops are, as Ms. Clinton put it, "babysitting a civil war." In fact, the surge forestalled an incipient civil war, and U.S. commanders and diplomats in Iraq don't hesitate to say that if American forces withdrew now, sectarian conflict would probably explode in its full fury, causing bloodshed on a far greater scale than ever before and posing grave threats to U.S. security.

Both Mr. Obama and Ms. Clinton propose withdrawing U.S. troops at the most rapid pace the Pentagon says is possible — one brigade a month. In the 16 months or so it would take to remove those forces, they envision the near-miraculous accomplishment of every political goal the Bush administration has aimed at for five years, from the establishment of a stable government to agreement by Iraq's neighbors to support it. They suppose that the knowledge that American forces were leaving would inspire these accords. In fact, it more likely would cause all sides to discount U.S. influence and prepare to violently seize the space left by the departing Americans.

With equal implausibility, the Democratic candidates say they would leave limited U.S. forces behind to prevent al-Qaida from establishing bases. They assume that an Iraqi government that had just been abandoned by the United States would consent to the continued presence of American forces on its territory. In all, Ms. Clinton and Mr. Obama speak as if they have no understanding of Iraqi leaders, whom they propose to treat as willing puppets.

If there was a glimmer of sense in Mr. Obama's speech, it lay in his acknowledgment that "we will have to make tactical adjustments, listening to our commanders on the ground, to ensure that our interests in a stable Iraq are met and to make

See FANTASIES on Next Page



"We support the two-state solution with Israel..."

## Are we better off today than 10 year ago?

Last night I got to thinking that with so many things going wrong in the CNMI lately, are we better off today than, say, 10 years ago? I don't intend to answer this question for you. Each of us has to answer it for himself. But if we don't answer it and take action to correct the situation, the worst is yet to come. Sure, I know the world appears to be heading for a recession, but you and I still need to put food on the table. And we must take action at a local level to make sure we will continue to feed our families and pay our basic financial obligations.

As usual, I am not telling you what to do or how to remedy the situation, but I beg that you think seriously about what is happening to us and take initiatives to correct what is not good. Stop blaming the outside world for all our shortcomings. We live on a small island and have meager resources, but we have brains and hands to make wrong right if we have the determination. We can learn to live within our means. We can be innovative. We can stop the foolish and wasteful spending of money.

Review the following questions and ask yourself whether you are better off today or 10 years ago.

1. Are you earning more money today?
2. Are you able to enjoy your family life better today?
3. Do you feel more secure today?
4. Are you happier today?
5. Is the CNMI a better place to live in today?
6. Are you satisfied with the present Administration and legislators?
7. Do you feel your children have a better chance at life today in the CNMI?
8. Do you feel federalization will hurt us?
9. Do you feel the United States is to blame for many of our problems?
10. Are you proud to be a U. S. citizen?
11. Do you feel that the government is truly trying to improve our daily lives?
12. Do you feel that the CNMI will ever become self-sufficient?

The above are only a few questions to start you thinking. You probably have many more. But think through what is happening to us and then take action to improve the situation. We have the power in us. Do we have the will?

Let's get off our butts and butts and do something about what is happening to us. You and I together are feeling the pain and no one else cares. My hurt is my hurt and your hurt is yours. Stop waiting for something good to happen because it will not unless you and I make it happen!

I want to borrow several quotes from a columnist named Charlie Reese, which seem to fit here. I found them thoughtful as I searched for remedies for improving our local problems. I modified several of them to fit our local situation.

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



1. Politicians are the only people in the world who create problems and then campaign against them.
2. Have you ever wondered why, if both Democrats and the Republicans are against deficits, we have deficits?
3. When you fully grasp the plain truth that the Administration and Congress exercise the power of the government, then it must follow that what exists is what they want to exist.
4. If the tax code is unfair, it's because they want it unfair.
5. If the budget is in the red, it's because they want it in the red.
6. You and I don't propose the budget. The Governor does.
7. You and I don't set fiscal policy, our Congress does.
8. All the members of House and Senate and the Governor are directly, legally, morally and individually responsible for the domestic problems that plague this country.
9. These elected officials spend much of their energy convincing us that what they did is not their fault. They cooperate in this common con/scam regardless of party.
10. The Governor can only propose a budget.
11. He cannot force Congress to accept it.
12. The Constitution, which is the supreme law of the land, gives sole responsibility to the House of Representatives for originating and approving appropriations and taxes.
13. I cannot think of a single domestic problem that is not traceable directly to our elected officials.
14. There are no insoluble government problems.
15. If we have over 8,000 people on welfare, it is because they want it that way.

The above statements are harsh but sadly true. We elected these people to help us. But matters are only getting worse. Let's stop being conned into the belief that there exists disembodied mystical forces like "the economy" or "politics" that prevent them from doing what they take an oath to do.

These elected people, and they alone, are responsible. They, and they alone, have the power. They, and they alone, should be held accountable by us who are their bosses—provided we, the voters, have the gumption to manage our own employees.

Are we better off today than 10 years ago? Will we be better off 10 years from now? The future is in our hands. Let's not fumble it.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Give PEW a chance

I am fully aware that there are some individuals, and one individual in particular, who have been actively spreading misinformation about PEW and PEW's intent. Rumors, innuendos, and political rhetoric should not play a part in preventing each and every one of us from exercising our responsibility to gather as much information and examining both sides of this issue before making up our minds.

My late father, Frank Borja Kaipat, was a congressman and District Administrator in charge of the Northern Islands in the '60s up until 1972. In Carolinian culture, we believe that where a person dies is where their spirit shall forever remain. My father breathed his last breath on Pagan Island. This is another reason I care deeply and will ALWAYS care deeply about the Northern Islands. One thing that my father's leadership taught me by example was that all of our islands are interconnected and that what happens on one island impacts the rest. I've always understood this.

I was first introduced to Jay Nelson of PEW by Rep. Diego Benavente. I introduced Jay to Angelo Villagomez. For those of you who don't know me, my love and loyalty to our people and our islands is unquestionable. I was born in the Northern Islands. I will ALWAYS care deeply about these islands and future of these islands probably more than anyone who has never been there or lived

## Shhh ..don't say recession

If (as is often the case) talking about sex makes people more interested in having it, does that mean that the current talk about a recession could actually be creating one?

Well, maybe.

Or so one general finding of behavioral economics would have us believe. With all this chatter about a recession, consumers might, for example, hold off on buying that new dishwasher because of the "bad economy," or pass up the more expensive restaurant because "we're in a recession." Without any discussion about recession, we're unlikely to change our pattern of behavior. But talking about it can be a force that affects our decisions and alters our consumption habits.

What makes me think that we're such creatures of habit? Consider the experience of eating a Godiva truffle: The chocolate is melting in your mouth, the aroma penetrates your nose, there is a small nut inside. ... Now think about this familiar experience and try to determine how much it's worth to you. A quarter? 50¢? 75¢? \$1.25? \$2.50? While the experience of eating a truffle is very familiar, figuring out what we would be willing to pay for it proves difficult. So what do we do when we make purchasing decisions? Generally, we use past decisions as a guiding principle. If we have paid 50¢ for a Godiva truffle in the past, we remember this decision, assume it was a good one and probably repeat it again and again.

Let's look at the following experiment: What if I asked you for the last two digits of your Social Security number (mine are 79), then asked you whether you would pay that number in dollars (for me this would be \$79) for a particular bottle of 1998 Cotes du Rhone. Would the mere suggestion of that number influence how much you would be willing to spend on wine? Sounds preposterous, doesn't it? Well, here's what happened to a group of MBA students at MIT a few years ago.

"Now here we have a nice 1998 Cotes du Rhone Jaboulet Parallel," said Drazen Prelec, a professor at MIT's Sloan School of Management, as he lifted a bottle admiringly. Sitting before him were the 55 students from his marketing research class. On this day, Prelec, professor George Loewenstein of Carnegie Mellon University and I had an unusual request for this group of future marketing pros. We asked them to jot down the last two digits of their Social Security numbers and tell us whether they would pay that amount for a number of products, including the wine. Then we asked them to actually bid on these items in an auction.

What were we trying to prove? The existence of what we called arbitrary coherence. The basic idea of arbitrary coherence is this: Although initial prices can be "arbitrary," once those prices are established in our minds, they will shape not only present prices but also future ones (thus making them "coherent"). So would thinking

there. The Northern Islands will ALWAYS be special to me.

I just served as a congresswoman in the 15th Legislature and founded the well-respected, award-winning environmental organization Beautify CNMI! My track record speaks for itself. My beliefs in the preservation of our core traditional and cultural values

I humbly and respectfully ask each and every single one of us NOT to rush to judgment, but to allow our community to have this much-needed open dialogue with PEW representatives on this very important issue.

are well-documented in the award-winning cultural and historical documentary film *Lieweila: Navigators' Children/A Micronesian Story*.

I have known and worked with my friend Herman Tudela in assisting our local fishermen. As a Senate aide to former senator Tom Villagomez, I appeared and testified before WESPAC in support of the preservation of our local Chamorro and Carolinian cultural and traditional fishing practices. I served for years as a member of the Historic Preservation Review Board. My keen interest in enhancing

about one's Social Security number be enough to create an anchor? And would that initial anchor have a long-term influence? That's what we wanted to find out.

"For those of you who don't know much about wines," Prelec continued, "this bottle received 86 points from Wine Spectator. It has the flavor of red berry, mocha and black chocolate; it's a medium-bodied, medium-intensity, nicely balanced red, and it makes for delightful drinking." He held up another bottle, a Jaboulet Hermitage La Chapelle, 1996, with a 92-point rating from the Wine Advocate magazine. "The finest La Chapelle since 1990," he intoned, while the students looked on curiously. "Only 8,100 cases made. ..."

Prelec held up four other items one by one: a cordless trackball, a

When we make one decision, even when it's about an arbitrary number, we bring this history into our future decisions, and continue to make the same decisions over and over without going back and questioning their wisdom.

cordless keyboard and mouse, a design book, and a one-pound box of Belgian chocolates. He passed out forms that listed all the items. "Now I want you to write the last two digits of your Social Security number at the top of the page," he instructed. "And then write them again next to each of the items in the form of a price. In other words, if the last two digits are 23, write \$23."

"Now when you're finished with that," he added, "I want you to indicate on your sheets whether you would pay that amount for each of the products."

When the students had finished, Prelec asked them to write down the maximum amount they were willing to pay for each of the products (their bids). Then they passed the sheets up to me, and I announced the winners. The students enjoyed this exercise, but when I asked them whether they felt that writing down the last two digits of their Social Security numbers had influenced their final bids, they dismissed my suggestion. No way! When I

### By JACINTA M. KAIPAT

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jacinta Kaipat is a former congresswoman in the 15th Legislature and is currently the deputy secretary of the CNMI Department of Labor. She helped found the environmental group Beautify CNMI!



our people's quality of life has a direct influence on my passion for enhancing our land and water environment and in the preservation, conservation, and propagation of our plant and animal species (in the broadest sense).

Please, I humbly and respectfully ask each and every single one of us NOT to rush to judgment, but to allow our community to have this much-needed open dialogue with PEW representatives on this very important issue. Only then would we be able to collectively and responsibly make a well-informed decision that would be in the best short and long-term future interest of our people, our islands and our natural resources. Our children deserve nothing less.

*I Taotaota! I Tanota. I Linalata! Aramasach! Fahuwasch! Mala-wasch! Our People! Our Land! Our Way of Life!*

### By DAN ARIELY

Special to The Washington Post

Dan Ariely is the Alfred P. Sloan professor of behavioral economics at MIT's Sloan School of Management and the author of *Predictably Irrational*.



got back to my office, I analyzed the data.

Did the digits from the Social Security numbers serve as anchors? Remarkably, they did: The students with the highest-ending Social Security digits bid highest, while those with the lowest-ending numbers bid lowest. The top 20 percent, for instance, bid an average of \$56 for the cordless keyboard; the bottom 20 percent bid an average of \$16. In the end, students with Social Security numbers ending in the upper 20 percent placed bids that were 216 to 346 percent higher than those of the students with Social Security numbers ending in the lowest 20 percent.

Now, if the last two digits of your Social Security number are a high number, I know what you must be thinking: "I've been paying too much for everything my entire life!" This is not the case, however. Social Security numbers were the anchor in this experiment only because we requested them. We could just as well have asked for the current temperature, or your shoe size. Any question, in fact, would have created the anchor.

Does that seem rational? Of course not. But when we make one decision, even when it's about an arbitrary number, we bring this history into our future decisions, and continue to make the same decisions over and over without going back and questioning their wisdom.

This suggests that if we just ignored the talk about recession, we would repeat our past behaviors and not deviate much from our pre-recession pattern of purchasing decisions. But when everyone is talking about recession, it's likely to make us stop, rethink our past decisions and feel that something needs to change. And so we change our patterns, start acting as if we're in a recession—and thereby create one. On the whole, it might be better if we just talked about sex instead.

### Letter to the Editor

## An invitation to the public

Please visit [www.camachocnmi.com](http://www.camachocnmi.com) to view all the House bills and legislative initiatives. The website has been up and running since the 16th Legislature took office. The bills and Initiatives can be located at the top of the website listed as "Legislative Bills." You do *not* have to "sign-in" or "log-in" to view and print the bills and initiatives.

If you wish to post a comment, a simple procedure to create a user name and password is required. You do not need to use your real name. This procedure for comments was implemented to prevent "spam" programs from posting unwelcome messages and advertisements. Please remember, you do *not*

have to sign-in or log-in if you only want to view the legislative bills and initiatives.

Under "Legislative Directory," you will find the House and Senate members' emails, phone and fax numbers. You may use this information to contact each House or Senate Member directly.

I encourage the public to visit [www.camachocnmi.com](http://www.camachocnmi.com) to view and comment on the House bills and initiatives.

**Joseph James Norita Camacho**

House Floor Leader  
16th Legislature, Capital Hill

## FANTASIES

From Page 10

sure our troops are secure." Ms. Clinton conceded that "the critical question is how we can end this war responsibly" and added "it won't be easy." In fact it will be terribly hard — and it can't be done responsibly in the way or on the timeline the two Democrats are proposing. We can only hope that, behind their wildly unrealistic campaign rhetoric, the candidates understand that reality.






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Sattelite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲84° ▼75°	▲85° ▼75°	▲85° ▼75°	▲85° ▼75°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼71
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▼77
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲88 ▼74
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	▲88 ▼79
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲87 ▼77
Kosrae	Cloudy	▲82 ▼78
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▼75

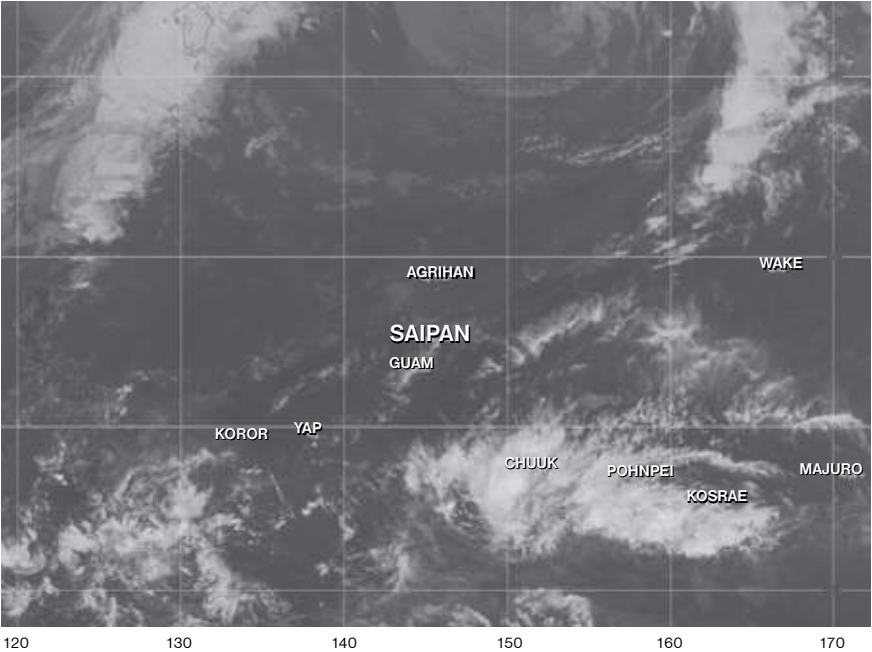
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲70 ▼58
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲53 ▼37
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲74 ▼65
Honolulu	Partly Sunny	▲83 ▼71
London	Cloudy	▲43 ▼33
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲78 ▼56
Manila	Showers	▲86 ▼76
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲77 ▼62
Miami	Showers	▲79 ▼60
New York	Cloudy	▲48 ▼34
Osaka	Partly Sunny	▲56 ▼42
Paris	Rain/Snow	▲41 ▼35
Pusan	Sunny	▲60 ▼33
Rome	Thunderstorms	▲49 ▼39
Salem	Rain	▲54 ▼39
San Francisco	Partly Sunny	▲66 ▼49
Seoul	Sunny	▲51 ▼30
Tokyo	Rain	▲61 ▼47
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲52 ▼36

### Tides

Saipan Harbor		
03:15AM Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
08:46AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
03:38PM Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
09:55PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2008

Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from 25N161E to 20N157E then continues as a shear line to 16N146E, near Anatahan, to 13N130E and beyond. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found within 75 miles of the cold front. A surface trough runs northwestward from 3N133E to 8N130E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the trough are occurring west of a line thats extends from EQ134E to 7N133E to beyond 130E. Another surface trough runs northward from 2N148E to 8N147E. The trough is combining with trade-wind convergence to trigger scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within a large area bounded by a line from 4N150E to 8N145E to 10N153E to 3N165E back to 4N150E. This area includes Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae states.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:18AM	6:28PM
Tuesday	6:18AM	6:29PM
Wednesday	6:17AM	6:29PM
Thursday	6:16AM	6:29PM
Friday	6:15AM	6:29PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	08:29PM	07:29AM
Tuesday	09:20PM	08:08AM
Wednesday	10:12PM	08:49AM
Thursday	11:04PM	09:33AM
Friday	11:56PM	10:22AM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

#### PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, grant-ing of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togeth-ers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organiza-tions, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

#### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

#### REQUIREMENTS

##### For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contrib-utors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 16, 2008

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>Saipan-Rota</b> CO 9313 8:30am 9:05am 3,4,7	<b>Rota-Saipan</b> CO 9598 11:10am 11:45am 1,2,6
<b>Saipan-Guam</b> CO9317 4:00am 4:50am Daily CO9597 8:30am 9:20am 1,2,5,6 CO9313 8:30am 10:00am 3,4,7 via Rota CO9601 12:30pm 1:20pm Daily CO9603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily CO9605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily CO9599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>Guam-Saipan</b> CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am Daily CO9596 7:00am 7:50am Daily CO9598 10:15am 11:45am 1,2,6 via Rota CO9600 10:45am 11:35am 3,4,5,7 CO9602 2:00pm 2:50pm Daily CO9604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily CO9606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Narita</b> NW 078 8:25am 1:30pm Daily via Nagoya  NW 075 4:50pm 7:30pm Daily	<b>Narita-Saipan</b> NW 076 10:35am 3:05pm Daily NW 077 6:15pm 1:10am+1 Daily via Nagoya
<b>Saipan-Osaka</b> NW 083 4:20pm 7:10pm Daily	<b>Osaka-Saipan</b> NW 084 10:30am 3:05pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Nagoya</b> NW 078 8:40am 11:25am Daily	<b>Nagoya-Saipan</b> NW 077 9:00pm 1:25am+1 Daily
<b>Saipan-Manila</b> CO 895 4:45pm 6:35pm 6 CO 895 6:45pm 8:35pm 3	<b>Manila-Saipan</b> CO 890 9:15am 2:55pm 6 CO 890 11:45am 5:35pm 3
<b>Saipan-Seoul</b> OZ 604 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ 604 2:40am 6:30am 2,3,4,5,6,7 OZ 606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2,4,6,7	<b>Seoul-Saipan</b> OZ 605 9:00am 2:30pm 2,4,6,7 OZ 603 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ 603 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6
<b>Saipan-Busan</b> OZ 608 4:00am 7:35am 1,4,5,7	<b>Busan-Saipan</b> OZ 607 9:30pm 2:50am+1 3,4,6,7
<b>Saipan-Guanzhou</b> CZ 3008 5:00am 8:00am 2,6	<b>Guanzhou-Saipan</b> CZ 3007 8:00pm 4:00am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Manila</b> CO 891 6:00am 10:30am 3 via Yap and Koror  CO 893 6:30am 8:05am 6 CO 893 8:25am 10:00am 2,7 CO 893 5:50pm 9:10pm 5 via Koror CO 933 7:00pm 8:40pm Daily PR 111 6:00am 7:45am 1,2,4,6,7	<b>Manila-Guam</b> CO 894 11:20am 4:55pm 2,7 CO 894 7:45pm 1:20am+1 6 CO 892 9:45pm 6:30am+1 3 via Koror and Yap CO 892 10:10pm 5:30am+1 5 via Koror CO 934 10:55pm 4:30am+1 Daily PR 110 10:15pm 4:00am+1 1,3,5,6,7
<b>Guam-Hongkong</b> CO 909 6:50pm 9:35pm 1,5	<b>Hongkong-Guam</b> CO 910 10:35pm 5:15am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Rota</b> CO 9598 10:15am 10:45am 1,2,6	<b>Rota-Guam</b> CO 9313 9:30am 10:00am 3,4,7
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)	

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100 7:00am 7:30am Daily				FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100 7:50am 8:20am Daily				FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:00am 9:30am Daily				FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:50am 10:15am Daily				<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300 4:00pm 4:30pm Daily				FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300 4:50pm 5:25pm Daily				FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400 6:00pm 6:30pm Daily				FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400 6:45pm 7:15pm Daily				FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101 6:45am 6:55am Daily				FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103 7:30am 7:40am Daily				FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105 8:00am 8:10am Daily				FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107 8:40am 8:50am Daily				FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109* 9:10am 9:20am Daily							
FRE 111* 10:45am 10:55am Daily							



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- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Business

## Fed steps bring praise, new scrutiny

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The Federal Reserve has taken its boldest action since the Great Depression, invoking rarely used powers in an effort to contain a panic threatening to undermine the economy. The central bank acted with speed the White House and Congress only could envy.

The Fed is largely free from many constraints that bog down other policymakers. Also, it is the only U.S. institution with the authority and ability to create money out of thin air.

For now, the steps orchestrated by Chairman Ben Bernanke, in the first critical test of his leadership since succeeding Alan Greenspan in early 2006, are earning praise from the Bush administration, Congress and presidential contenders Barack Obama, Hillary Rodham Clinton and John McCain.

But the Fed's moves are raising questions about whether its regulatory powers, established in the early 20th century, need overhauling and whether it took on some responsibilities that Congress and the administration should have shouldered.

In a remarkable week, the Fed:

- engineered the fire sale of bankruptcy-headed Bear Stearns Cos. to J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. with a \$30 billion loan.

- offered emergency loans to other securities dealers under terms normally reserved for regulated banks.

- slashed a key short-term interest rate by three quarters of a percentage point, to 2.25 percent. The cut was sixth since September.

These steps followed moves to lend \$100 billion in cash to

banks and \$200 billion in Treasury bonds to cash-strapped investment banks. The goal was to keep the financial system from seizing up.

"I spent 35 years on Wall Street, have been a Fed watcher for a long time and I have never seen the potential for a more severe credit crisis than this one," said David Jones, chief

economist at DMJ Advisors and a former Wall Street economist. "It looks like we turned the corner precisely because of what the Fed did."

Was this the first look at a more activist Fed or just a targeted response to a looming economic meltdown?

Either way, the financial sector and its regulators are expected to

come under congressional scrutiny in the days ahead.

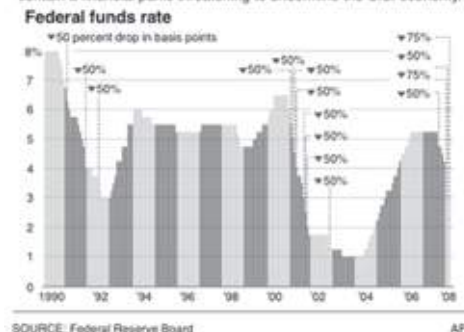
Lawmakers from both parties are coming up with suggestions for restructuring the regulation of financial markets. The Treasury Department is working on its own blueprint for change.

Rep. Barney Frank, chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, is proposing new regulations on investment banks similar to those that apply to regular banks. That includes mandatory requirements for cash reserves to cushion losses.

Frank, D-Mass., said the Fed or other government entity should be designated as a "finan-

### Fed slashes short term interest rate

The Federal Reserve took bold and aggressive actions in an effort to contain a financial panic threatening to undermine the U.S. economy.



cial services regulator" with the power to limit risky practices.

White House spokeswoman Dana Perino said the administration would study the concept and other ideas "as we consider if there's additional things that we need to do."

Bear Stearns' unraveling and the credit woes facing other financial companies brought new attention to the Fed, which is part of the government and part of the commercial banking system.

Congress created the Fed in 1913 to prevent financial panics such as runs on banks and set it up as an independent entity. Its powers grew in 1933 and 1935. Although the Fed is subject to congressional oversight, its decisions do not have to be ratified by the president or Congress. Fed officials are not paid with money appropriated by Congress.



President Bush names his top economic adviser, Ben Bernanke, right, to become the new chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, replacing Alan Greenspan, left, in the Oval Office at the White House in Washington in this Oct. 24, 2005 file photo.

## Financial market turmoil raises worries

By **MARTIN CRUTSINGER**  
AP ECONOMICS WRITER

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—It's been almost an article of faith: Any recession this year will be mild and brief. But now the stunning meltdown of a top Wall Street investment bank and stubbornly persistent financial market turbulence has called that into question, raising fears that severe problems in housing and the nation's bedrock financial system could cripple the economy and wallop many millions of Americans.

No less an authority than former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan wrote this week that "the current financial crisis in the U.S. is likely to be judged as the most wrenching" since the end of World War II.

Other noted economists are also sounding alarms. Harvard professor Martin Feldstein, the former head of the National Bureau of Economic Research,

said recently he believes the country is now in a recession and it could be a severe one.

While it will be many months before the bureau's cycle dating committee, the unofficial arbiter of when recessions begin and end, makes its own ruling, a growing number of private economists already have a downturn figured into their forecasts. They are generally calling for a mild recession that will end this summer when the economic stimulus checks going to 130 million households start getting spent.

But the severe credit crisis that erupted last August - and claimed its biggest victim this

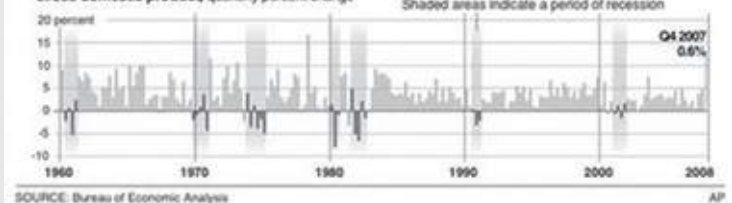
past weekend with the forced sale of Bear Stearns Co. - is raising doubts about those mild forecasts.

"Bear Stearns was a clear wake-up call. It resonates with everybody and highlights the severity of the stresses in the financial system," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com.

What got people's attention was how quickly Bear Stearns, the nation's fifth largest investment bank, could go from a stock market value of about \$3.5 billion when the market closed on March 14 to being sold at the bargain-basement price of about \$236 million two days later.

### GDP drops 4.3 percent in 4th quarter 2007

A recession is defined as two consecutive quarters of negative growth in the Gross Domestic Product. The GDP measures the value of all goods and services produced within the United States.



### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### AT&T to pay FCC \$1.3B down payment

**NEW YORK (AP)**—AT&T says it will pay an initial down payment of \$1.3 billion to the Federal Communications Commission for its portion of wireless spectrum licenses it won in a government airwaves auction. AT&T says it will pay the down payment, of which \$500 million was paid prior to the start of the auction, within the next 10 business days, according to a regulatory filing Friday. The remaining balance of \$5.3 billion will be paid on or before April 17. The San Antonio, Texas-based company says it will use funds from operations and either short-term or long-term debt to fund the purchase price.

#### Worker sentenced in slaughterhouse abuse

**CHINO, Calif. (AP)**—A man caught on video dragging sick cows and shocking them at a Southern California slaughterhouse has been sentenced to six months in jail. Rafael Sanchez Herrera, 34, pleaded guilty Friday in San Bernardino Superior Court to three misdemeanor counts of illegal movement of a non-ambulatory animal. The undercover video shot by the Hu-

mane Society of the United States led to a federal investigation that spurred the largest beef recall in U.S. History on Feb 17. The video shows workers at the Chino-based Westland/Hallmark Meat Co. dragging sick cows with metal chains and forklifts, shocking them with electric prods and shooting streams of water in their noses and faces.

#### Feds open Alcoa bribery probe

**PITTSBURGH (AP)**—Federal prosecutors have launched an investigation into allegations that Alcoa Inc. and affiliates bribed officials in the Persian Gulf country of Bahrain to secure hundreds of millions of dollars in overpayments. The U.S. Justice Department asked a judge to halt a federal civil lawsuit against the Pittsburgh-based company that accused Alcoa of bribing the officials through secretive shell companies in Asia and Europe. Aluminum Bahrain B.S.C., controlled by the Bahrain government and known as Alba, is seeking more than \$1 billion in damages from Alcoa and other affiliated defendants, according to the lawsuit filed last month. Alba operates one of the world's largest aluminum smelters.

## Wall Street culture not likely to change

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Wall Street investment bankers got another lesson about the dangers of risk-taking this past week with the downfall of Bear Stearns Cos. The question now obviously is, how long will it last?

Those bankers, many of whom lived through market debacles like the dot-com bust at the start of this decade, turned out to have very short memories. And so analysts believe the sale of Bear Stearns to JPMorgan Chase & Co. for a stunning \$2 per share ultimately won't have that much of an impact on how Wall Street conducts business.

In fact, bankers and traders

are under even more pressure to reap big returns because of the ongoing credit crisis, and risk is just part of the game.

"There's an old saying on Wall Street that, for traders and bankers, you'd have to take a normal 30 year career and distill it to 15 years," said Quincy Krosby, chief investment strategist for The Hartford. "This whole episode might change Wall Street for a little while."

Krosby believes that Bear Stearns' near-collapse, which followed the company's investing too heavily in risky mortgage-backed securities, might force some bankers to change their ways in the short term. But

it won't be enough to temper the financial industry's relentless pursuit of money.

Indeed, the past decade has seen a number of investing fiascoes that Wall Street doesn't appear to have learned much from. Krosby noted the go-go Internet days—when untested high-tech companies reaped piles of cash in public offerings. The lesson then was, don't put a lot of money into a venture that isn't on fairly solid ground—but mortgages granted to people with poor credit are quite akin to high-tech firms that had never turned a profit. In both cases, investors gleefully looked past the risk.



## Nation

## Free by error, ex-radical back in prison

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Just days after her release on parole, a former 1970s radical was headed back to prison Saturday to serve at least one more year after corrections officials said a miscalculation resulted in her early release.

Criticism over the early release from prison Monday of Sara Jane Olson, who lived as a fugitive for years in Minnesota, spurred a review of her sentence and the timing of

her parole, Scott Kernan, the chief deputy secretary for the California Department of Corrections, said at a news conference. The review revealed that a 2004 miscalculation led to the former Sym-bionese Liberation Army member being released a year too early, he said.

"The department is sensitive

to the impact such an error has had on all involved in this case

and sincerely regrets the mistake," Kernan said.

He said the review was ordered "after many concerns raised in the media."

The union that represents Los Angeles police officers and the son of a woman killed in a decades-old botched robbery



Olson

## 2 charged in Conn. millionaire's death

**HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)**—A chauffeur and his cousin are being charged in the 2006 stabbing death of a millionaire developer accused of real estate fraud, police said Saturday.

Andrew Kissel, 46, was found tied up and stabbed to death in his Greenwich mansion just days before he was to plead guilty in a multimillion-dollar fraud case.

Carlos Trujillo, who was Kissel's driver, and his cousin, Leonard Trujillo, have been arrested in connection with the developer's

death, Greenwich Police Chief David Ridberg said Saturday.

"There is still a lot of information to be gathered and facts to be discerned," Ridberg said in a written statement announcing the arrests.

The arrest warrants are sealed. The chief said more information would be released Monday.

Leonard Trujillo, 21, is charged with murder and conspiracy to commit murder, police said. Carlos Trujillo, 47, is charged with conspiracy to

commit murder.

Attorney Lindy Urso, who represented Carlos Trujillo shortly after Kissel's death could not be reached late Saturday. Information was not immediately available on whether Leonard Trujillo had an attorney.

Carlos Trujillo had been interviewed by police several times and had given them samples of his DNA, fingerprints and some personal documents, his attorney has said. He has denied any involvement in Kissel's death.



## REUNITED, AND IT FEELS SO GOOD!

This image shows Maj. Brian Dennis holding his adopted dog, Nubs, near the Iraq-Jordan border on Feb. 4, 2008. The San Diego-based Marine major was reunited on Saturday March 22, 2008 with the 2-year-old dog. Nubs greeted Dennis at Miramar Marine Corps Air Station when the fighter pilot returned from Iraq. It was the first time the two were together since Dennis' family and close friends helped raise \$3,500 to fly the dog to San Diego about a month ago. Nubs wasn't allowed to stay on base in Iraq. Dennis, 36, of St. Pete Beach, Fla., had spotted the mongrel dog while on patrol in Anbar province and later nursed the animal back to health after finding him stabbed with a screwdriver. He named the dog Nubs after learning someone cut the ears off believing it would make the dog more aggressive and alert.

## Body found in Atlanta tornado rubble

**ATLANTA (AP)**—Workers found a body on Saturday while clearing rubble from a building damaged over a week ago when a tornado slammed into downtown Atlanta, police said.

"We may have the first tornado victim in the city of Atlanta, but we won't know for sure until the medical examiner" returns with results, Officer James Polite said.

The man had no identification, but he was wearing a wedding band, Polite said.

The front of the damaged building had been a store and the rear had been rented out to a local church. Workers using a Bobcat to scoop up bricks and debris saw a hand sticking out of the rubble and called police, Polite said.

"We believe the man was seeking shelter from the storm and did not make it into the building," Polite said. "He was facing the wall when we found him."

Investigators brought in two cadaver dogs to search the rubble,

which was east of downtown, but no other bodies were found.

The twister struck the city with little warning March 14, cutting a 6-mile path of destruction through the city with winds gusting up to 130 miles per hour. At least 27 people were injured.

The storm significantly damaged the city's largest convention venue, the Georgia World Congress Center, blew out hundreds of windows, and scattered debris across the city's core and surrounding residential areas.

at a bank near Sacramento opposed Olson's release.

Olson, 61, was detained at Los Angeles International Airport on Friday night and told her right to leave the state had been rescinded. She was sent to stay with family in Palmdale, where authorities kept watch outside the house overnight, and was arrested Saturday and

imprisoned in Corona, about 50 miles southeast of Los Angeles, Kernan said.

She will be returned to the same prison in central California that she walked out of Monday and will not be eligible for release until March 17, 2009, he said.

Olson's attorney, Shawn Chapman Holley, called her

client's return to custody "ridiculous" and said prison officials caved in to outside influences.

"As far as we're concerned they're bowing to political pressure and they are wrong," Holley said. "It's like they make up all new rules when it comes to her. It's like we are in some kind of fascist state."

## Levee holds at flood-threatened town

**VALLEY PARK, Mo. (AP)**—Residents of small towns along the Meramec River breathed a sigh of relief Saturday as the stream finally crested following days of flooding caused by torrential rainfall across the Midwest.

At Valley Park, the river rose to a peak of 37.8 feet Saturday morning, well above the flood stage of 16 feet but still below the record of 39.7 feet, according to the National Weather Service.

It was the first trial of the town's \$49 million levee, which stands a few feet above Saturday's crest and was designed to withstand the biggest flood that might be expected in a century.

"It's a 100-year event, and it's a 100-year levee," said Army Corps of Engineers Col. Lewis Setliff. "It got tested, and it passed."

Elsewhere, rivers were still rising in southwest Illinois and parts of Arkansas, chasing people from their homes and into shelters. Rivers had mostly begun receding in Ohio.

At least 17 deaths have been linked to the weather over the past week, and one person was missing in Arkansas.

Thousands of people in Missouri had fled to Red Cross



A semi tractor trailer cab sits partially submerged in flood water from the Meramec River at the intersection of state route 141 and Interstate 44 in Fenton, Mo., Saturday, March 22, 2008.

shelters or to the homes of friends or relatives.

The high water pushing against the other side of the Valley Park levee didn't bother customers at Meramec Jack's bar and grill, where owner Tracy Ziegler was pouring cold beer Saturday morning.

Ziegler, 47, had been confident all along that the levee would hold.

"I haven't even lifted my computer off the floor in the office," said Ziegler, who bought the bar in 2005, just after the Army Corps of Engineers finished the levee a few hundred yards away.

## ACROSS THE NATION

## Astronauts complete fifth spacewalk

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)**—Endeavour's astronauts embarked on the fifth and final spacewalk of their mission Saturday, this time attaching a 50-foot inspection pole to the international space station for use by the next shuttle visitors. Michael Foreman and Robert Behnken floated out the hatch late in the afternoon as the linked shuttle and station soared more than 200 miles above the Pacific. They spacewalked the night away, successfully accomplishing all their work. The shuttle astronauts used the laser-tipped inspection boom at the beginning of their 16-day mission and again Friday night to check for any damage to their spaceship. It's become a routine safety procedure ever since the 2003 Columbia accident.

## Mistake dashes regional speller's dream

**ST. JOSEPH, Mo. (AP)**—Seventh-grader Morgan Brown thought her dream to compete in the national spelling was about to come true when she won her regional contest. But her family found out this week that her school was not registered with the Scripps National Spelling Bee, disqualifying her for the May competition

in Washington, D.C. Her father said Morgan, who has had to adapt her learning skills to cope with a vision disorder, has dreamed of competing in the national spelling bee since she was 9 and now he faces a "heavy-heart situation." The problem is that Morgan attends North Platte Junior High School, which wasn't registered, a fact school officials and the bee's organizers didn't know at the time of the regional competition on March 8.

## Obese relative may have crushed toddler

**LA JOYA, Texas (AP)**—A 2-year-old boy who died with a fractured skull may have been accidentally crushed by a morbidly obese relative, authorities say. Investigators believe the woman fell on the child, who was pronounced dead Tuesday, said Bobby Contreras, Hidalgo County justice of the peace. An autopsy was scheduled, with the cause of death to be released Monday. Hidalgo County Sheriff Lupe Trevino, who called the death "suspicious," said he would wait for an announcement on the cause before deciding whether to file charges. The child was believed to have been dropped off by his mother to spend the day with the bedridden relative, The McAllen Monitor reported Friday.



# Asia

## China offers its own version of protests

**CHENGDU, China** (AP)—With restive Tibetan areas swarming with troops and closed to scrutiny from the outside world, China's government turned up efforts Saturday to put its own version of the unrest before the international public.

Information barely trickled out of the Tibetan capital Lhasa and other far-flung Tibetan communities, where foreign media were banned and thousands of troops dispatched to quell the most widespread demonstrations against Chinese rule in nearly five decades.

The Chinese government was attempting to fill the vacuum

with its own message. It disseminated footage of Tibetan protesters attacking Chinese and accusations of biased reporting by Western media via TV, the Internet, e-mail and YouTube, which is blocked in China. The communist government's leading newspaper called to "resolutely crush" the Tibetan demonstrations.

The media barrage underscored that the government campaign is moving into a new phase of damage control ahead of the much-anticipated Beijing Olympics in August.

While China's rigorous policing of the Internet is far from

foolproof, its official Internet is pervasive and there is no easy access to an alternative in the country. The difficulty of confirming what is going on inside Tibet may also be hindering a stronger world reaction.

"They've successfully managed the messages available to the average Chinese citizen, and this has fueled broad public support for a heavy-handed approach to controlling unrest," said David Bandurski, a Hong Kong University expert on Chinese media. "There will be no nuances to Tibet coverage."

CNN's bureau in Beijing has been deluged in recent days by



In this photo released on Friday, March 21, 2008 by China's Xinhua News Agency, a store is set on fire during the unrest in Lhasa, capital of southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, on March 14, 2008.

a barrage of harassing phone calls and faxes that accuse the organization of unfair coverage. An e-mail to United Nations-based reporters purportedly from China's U.N. mission sent an Internet link to a 15-minute state television program showing Tibetans attacking Chinese in Lhasa.

A slideshow posted on YouTube accused CNN, Germany's Der Spiegel and other media of cropping pictures to show Chinese military while screening out Tibetan rioters or putting pictures of Indian and Nepalese police wrestling Tibetan protesters with captions about China's crackdown.

Though of uncertain origin, the piece at least had official blessing, with excerpts appearing on the official English-language China Daily and on state TV.

China raised its death toll from the violence in Tibet by 5, to 22, with the Xinhua News Agency reporting that the charred remains of an 8-month-old boy and four adults were pulled from a garage burned down on Lhasa's last Sunday—two days after the city erupted in anti-Chinese rioting. The Dalai Lama's exiled government says 99 Tibetans have been killed, 80 in Lhasa, 19 in Gansu province.

## RP's Estrada eyes possible comeback

By **JIM GOMEZ**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**TANAY, Philippines** (AP)—After giving a tour of his museum of souvenirs from a checkered movie and political career, ousted President Joseph Estrada headed outside for a dramatic finale: the marble tomb where he plans to be laid to rest.



Ousted Philippine President Joseph Estrada smiles during an interview with the Associated Press at his 15-hectare (37-acre) vacation hideaway in Tanay, east of Manila, Philippines on Thursday Mar. 20, 2008 which was patterned after the Santa Barbara, California, memorial ranch of another actor-turned-president, Ronald Reagan.

But death is hardly on Estrada's mind. At 70, he says he is in good health. Movies—his original springboard to fame and power—and politics are beckoning again.

"I might," Estrada replied when asked if he would consider running in 2010 despite a constitutional ban on former presidents seeking re-election.

"For 6 1/2 years, I did not get sick. I'm stronger now. Maybe I still have a mission to do," Estrada told The Associated Press in an interview Thursday at his 15-hectare (37-acre) vacation hideaway outside Manila, patterned after the Santa Barbara, California, memorial ranch of another actor-turned-president, Ronald Reagan.

Estrada made a sentimental trip early this week to his villa where he spent the last two of more than six years of detention while on trial for plunder. He was convicted last September, then was pardoned and set free a month later by his nemesis, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

As he stepped back into the villa—where he said he was driven to tears while feeling abandoned during his lowest point—Estrada noted the door "looked so strange. There were no soldiers."

Clad in a blue summer shirt, jeans and hallmark wristband with the presidential seal, Estrada was in high spirits, often puffing away on a Lucky Strike through an anti-tar holder.

he was rushed to a nearby hospital. NHK reported that police captured the alleged attacker, described as a 24-year-old jobless man, at the scene.

### Bhutto party names Pakistan PM candidate

**ISLAMABAD, Pakistan** (AP)—The party of slain opposition leader Benazir Bhutto named former parliament speaker Yousaf Raza Gilani as its candidate for Pakistan's next prime minister on Saturday. Bhutto's Pakistan's People's Party won the biggest parliamentary bloc in Feb. 18 elections and is preparing to lead a new coalition government united against U.S.-backed President Pervez Musharraf, whose supporters were routed in the polls. The party enjoys the customary right to name the prime minister because it won the most seats. Gilani was a close aide to Bhutto and spent four years in jail on allegations he abused his authority as speaker under Bhutto's second term as prime minister in the 1990s. He was freed in 2005.

## Tibetans expect little help from world

**DHARMSALA, India** (AP)—Nearly six decades of struggle against the might of China has taught the Tibetans one thing: Ask the world for little, expect less.

As Tibetans rose up in recent weeks against China's harsh rule over the Himalayan region and China sent forces to quell the protests, Tibet's government-in-exile sent its envoys to far-flung capitals with appeals for help.

But guided by the Dalai Lama, the Tibetan spiritual

leader, they kept their requests modest. They know few countries have the appetite to cross China, particularly at a time the world is counting on the emerging superpower to keep the global economy ticking as the United States appears headed into a recession.

"His Holiness says we have to be realistic," said Tenzin Taklha, a senior aide to the 72-year-old Nobel Peace Prize winner who has come to embody the Tibetan struggle since he fled to India in 1959

in the wake of a failed uprising against China.

From the exiled Tibetan leaders, there were no calls for sanctions, like those imposed when Myanmar suppressed pro-democracy protests last year, or even a boycott of this summer's Beijing Olympics.

It's an approach that reflects the pragmatism of the Dalai Lama, who has long sought an accommodation based on his "Middle Way" dialogue with Beijing aimed at autonomy for Tibetans under Chinese rule.

## Opposition wins Taiwan presidential vote

**TAIPEI, Taiwan** (AP)—Taiwan's opposition candidate won the presidential election Saturday, a victory many hope will defuse tension with China over the neighboring island's aspirations for independence.

Taiwan's Central Election Commission also said two referendums calling on the government to work for the island's entry into the United Nations failed. China had warned that the referendums threatened stability in the region.

Confetti snowed down on giddy followers at Ma Ying-jeou's headquarters and fireworks exploded in the sky, celebrating his victory over Frank Hsieh, a former premier

whose party support Taiwan's independence.

Ma's win returns the presidency to the Nationalist Party, which ruled Taiwan for five decades before suffering defeats in the past two elections.

The size of Ma's triumph - he won by 17 percentage points - confounded many people, who thought the race had been tightening in the final days over China's crackdown in Tibet. The ruling party had portrayed the crackdown as a pointer to the way Beijing could deal with independence aspirations on Taiwan.

Ma should be relatively palatable to Beijing because the Nationalists ostensibly favor

unification with China. Taiwan and China have been ruled separately since the Communist Party took over the mainland in 1949.

Ma, 57, promised voters he will try to negotiate a peace treaty with Beijing and deepen Taiwan's already robust economic relationship with the mainland. But he pledged that he wouldn't negotiate unification with Beijing because the vast majority of Taiwanese didn't want to become part of the communist mainland.

"I will make it crystal clear that Taiwan will be a stakeholder and will not rock the boat in the region. By stakeholder, I mean peacemaker," he said.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### 2 coalition soldiers die in Afghanistan

**KABUL, Afghanistan** (AP)—Two soldiers from the U.S.-led coalition have been killed in southern Afghanistan. The soldiers were killed when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb in Kandahar province on Saturday. They were conducting a security patrol in the Zhari district along with Afghan soldiers. The U.S.-led coalition did not release the nationalities of the two soldiers. Last year was the most violent in Afghanistan since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion. The U.N. says more than 8,000 people died in insurgency-related violence.

#### Media: 1 dead, 7 hurt in Japan stabbings

**TOKYO** (AP)—Public broadcaster NHK says one person was stabbed to death and at least seven others were injured by a man who went on a knife-spree at a shopping mall in eastern Japan. The stabbings occurred in the city of Tsuchiura on Sunday. Seven people were injured and an eighth died as



## World

# Blasts strike Baghdad's Green Zone

**BAGHDAD** (AP)—Dark smoke rose from the U.S.-protected Green Zone early Sunday after it was targeted by a series of rockets or mortars.

Some 10 blasts were heard in the sprawling area in central

Baghdad starting shortly before 6 a.m., and helicopters buzzed overhead. The U.S. public address system there warned people to "duck and cover" and to stay away from windows.

U.S. officials did not respond

to a request for comment about the attack.

Last month, the U.S. military blamed what it calls Iranian-backed Shiite militias for a series of deadly rocket attacks in Baghdad. Those included

one that struck Camp Victory, the main U.S. military headquarters, and an Iraqi housing complex on the capital's southwestern outskirts on Feb. 18, killing at least five people and wounding 16, including two U.S. soldiers.

The military said the extremists were among factions that have broken with radical Shiite cleric al-Sadr and refused to follow his cease-fire order. Iran denies allegations that it is stoking the violence. Al-Sadr has extended the cease-fire through

mid-August.

The cease-fire, along with an increase in U.S. troop levies and a move by American-backed Sunni fighters to turn against their former al-Qaida in Iraq allies, have been credited with sharply reducing violence in Baghdad and surrounding areas.

The 10-square-kilometer (4-square-mile) area on the west bank of the Tigris River houses the U.S. and British embassies, the Iraqi government headquarters and thousands of American

troops on the west bank of the Tigris River.

It has been frequently struck by rockets and mortar rounds fired by Shiite and Sunni extremists, though the attacks have tapered off amid stepped up security measures and the decrease in violence.

But they have proven deadly. On July 10, extremists unleashed a barrage of more than a dozen mortars or rockets into the Green Zone, killing at least three people—including an American—and wounding 18.

## DNA advances set to ID 'Dirty War' bones

**BUENOS AIRES, Argentina** (AP)—The 600 skeletons are packed into fruit cartons and stacked on shelves in the walk-in closet of a forensic lab, in the dim glow of a single bare light bulb. They are "Skeleton No. 4" or "Skeleton No. 21," and nothing more.

But a quarter-century after Argentina's dictatorship and "dirty war" against its own citizens ended, DNA technology raises the possibility of finally learning the identities of these skeletons in the closet, collected from mostly unmarked graves across Argentina.

Funded by U.S. taxpayers, anthropologists have launched an ambitious campaign, drawing on techniques pioneered in Bosnia and at New York's World Trade Center after 9/11.

On television and radio, celebrities exhort relatives of "the disappeared" to provide blood samples for a nationwide DNA database. A weekday call center advertises its toll-free number on banners at soccer games.

"If you have a family member who was a victim of a forced disappearance ... a simple blood sample can help identify them," says a popular Argentine soccer sportscaster in a TV ad.

The campaign began in November and is already paying off.

"We've received some 2,000 telephone calls," said Luis Fondreider of the independent Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team, which was founded in

1984 to document the missing and has since applied its know-how in more than 40 countries, from El Salvador to Iraq to East Timor. It also led the identification through dental records of Cuban revolutionary Ernest "Che" Guevara's remains, exhumed in the 1990s.

The nonprofit group hopes

soon to recruit a U.S. lab to cross-match the samples with DNA from all 600 skeletons in the closet, many of which have bullet holes in their skulls or signs of torture.

Large-scale DNA sampling has become quicker and cheaper since it was pioneered in Bosnia, according to Mercedes Doretti, a founder of the group and a recipient of a 2007 MacArthur Foundation "genius grant."



A skull is seen at the independent Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team forensic lab in Buenos Aires, March 11, 2008.

## Ecuador warns of new Colombia tensions

**QUITO, Ecuador** (AP)—President Rafael Correa on Saturday threatened to seek international condemnation against Colombia if DNA tests confirm that Colombia's military killed an Ecuadorean citizen during its raid on a rebel camp in Ecuador's jungle.

Ecuador and Venezuela sent troops to their borders with Colombia after the March 1 cross-border raid. Tensions were largely defused at a regional summit days later.

Relatives of missing Ecuadorean Franklin Aizalia say to have seen news photos that indicate a body that Colombia removed from the camp is that

of their son. They will travel to Colombia on Monday in a bid to confirm the body's identity.

Correa urged the Organization of American States to "act forcefully" if tests confirm that Colombia killed an Ecuadorean citizen, saying he did not want a precedent set in the region.

If the body proves to be Aizalia, rather than a Colombian, Correa vowed "to start an extremely strong diplomatic fight, because we will not leave this killing unpunished."

Correa has not renewed diplomatic ties severed with neighboring Colombia after the raid on a jungle camp of the Revo-

lutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC—an act he denounced as an attack on his country's sovereignty.

"How can we renew relations if they keep trying to link us to the FARC to justify their aggression?" he said.

Colombian President Alvaro Uribe, a close U.S. ally, says documents seized at the camp from the computer of slain rebel leader Raul Reyes show that the FARC gave money to Correa's 2006 presidential campaign. He also says Correa's ally, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, planned to give the rebels US\$300 million.

## Pope baptizes prominent Italian Muslim

**VATICAN CITY** (AP)—Italy's most prominent Muslim, an iconoclastic writer who condemned Islamic extremism and defended Israel, converted to Catholicism Saturday in a baptism by the pope at a Vatican Easter service.

An Egyptian-born, non-practicing Muslim who is married to a Catholic, Magdi Allam infuriated some Muslims with his books and columns in the newspaper *Corriere della Sera* newspaper, where he is a deputy editor. He titled one book "Long Live Israel."

As a choir sang, Pope Benedict XVI poured holy water over Allam's head and said a brief prayer in Latin.

"We no longer stand alongside or in opposition to one another," Benedict said in a homily reflecting on the meaning of baptism. "Thus faith is a force for peace and reconciliation in the world: distances between people are overcome, in the Lord we have become close."

Vatican Television zoomed in on Allam, who sat in the front row of the basilica along with six other candidates for baptism. He later received his first Communion.

Allam, 55, told the newspaper *Il Giornale* in a December interview that his criticism of Palestinian suicide bombing provoked threats on his life in 2003, prompting the Italian government to provide him with a sizable security detail.

The Union of Islamic Communities in Italy—which Allam has frequently criticized as having links to Hamas—said the



Magdi Allam, Italy's most prominent Muslim commentator, is baptized by Pope Benedict XVI during the Easter vigil mass in St. Peter's Basilica, at the Vatican, Saturday, March 22, 2008.

baptism was his own decision.

"He is an adult, free to make his personal choice," the Apcom news agency quoted the group's spokesman, Issedin El Zir, as saying.

Yahya Pallavicini, vice president of Coreis, the Islamic religious community in Italy, said he respected Allam's choice but said he was "perplexed" by the symbolic and high-profile way in which he chose to convert.

"If Allam truly was compelled by a strong spiritual inspiration, perhaps it would have been better to do it delicately, maybe with a priest from Viterbo where he lives," the ANSA news agency quoted Pallavicini as saying.

The nighttime Easter vigil service at St. Peter's Basilica marked the period between Good Friday, which commemorates Jesus' crucifixion, and Easter Sunday, which marks his resurrection.

Benedict opened by blessing

a white candle, which he then carried down the main aisle of the darkened basilica. Slowly, the pews began to light up as his flame was shared with candles carried by the faithful, until the whole basilica twinkled and the main lights came on.

The pope administers baptism "without making any 'difference of people,' that is, considering all equally important before the love of God and welcoming all in the community of the Church," said the Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi.

Allam, who has a young son with his Catholic wife and two adult children from a previous relationship, indicated in the *Il Giornale* interview that he would have no problem converting to Christianity. He said he had even received Communion once—when he was 13 or 14—"even though I knew it was an act of blasphemy, not having been baptized."

## US govt amends Kenyan travel warning

**NAIROBI, Kenya** (AP)—The United States has amended a travel advisory cautioning against travel to parts of Kenya, saying threats of violence have "dramatically receded" following a political power-sharing deal.

A deeply flawed Dec. 27 presidential election unleashed weeks of violence that killed more than 1,000 people and

tarnished Kenya's reputation as one of Africa's most stable and tourist-friendly countries. After weeks of bloodshed and mounting international pressure, President Mwai Kibaki and opposition leader Raila Odinga agreed last month to share power.

"Threats of political demonstrations and violence have dramatically receded," the State

Department said Friday. The temporary suspension of the Peace Corps program in Kenya was also under review.

The United States still urged caution, recommending that Americans living in or traveling to Kenya "evaluate their personal security situation in light of continuing, potential threats from terrorism and crime."



## Health & Fitness

# Keeping lost pounds off

By JANET CROMLEY  
(C) 2008, LOS ANGELES TIMES

The Internet may be your Best Friend Forever, but when it comes to keeping weight off, you're better off communing with a real person, according to a multicenter study conducted by investigators at Duke University Medical Center and three other research institutions.

In a 30-month investigation, the researchers compared the effectiveness of personal contact with a trained weight-loss counselor to Internet support in helping volunteers stave off weight gain after an initial weight loss.

Assessing the group every six months, the investigators found that although both personal and Internet support provided modest benefits in sustaining weight loss at 24 months, at 30 months only the personal-contact group fared better than the control group, which received no support beyond printed instructions.

The study, which appeared in a recent *Journal of the American*

Medical Association, was an attempt to shed a little light on the issue of how to keep off those hard-lost pounds.

"We know a fair amount about how to help people lose weight, but we know almost nothing about how to help people maintain weight loss," says the study's lead author, Dr. Laura Svetkey, a professor of medicine and director of the Duke Hypertension Center at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, N.C. "We wanted to look at strategies that could be disseminated very broadly, that would be efficient and affordable."

The research took place at Duke, Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, Pennington Biomed-

ical Research Center in Baton Rouge, La., and Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research in Portland, Ore.

In the study, investigators divided 1,032 volunteers, who had lost an average of 18.7 pounds in an earlier phase of the research, into three groups.

One, the personal-contact group, received 5- to 10-minute phone calls with a weight-loss interventionist each month and an hourlong, in-person session every four months. The counselor reviewed the volunteer's progress, discussed food and exercise goals and addressed barriers to maintaining the weight loss.

The Internet support group received unlimited access to a Web site designed by the researchers to support weight-loss maintenance. The site was interactive and focused on setting goals, developing plans, tracking personal data and solving motivation problems. Participants were encouraged to log on weekly, and those who missed a scheduled contact were sent e-mail reminders.

The Internet approach is particularly interesting to researchers because of its affordability and accessibility, Svetkey says. It is already widely used by people trying to lose weight. For example, Weight Watchers' Web site, which launched in 2001, had more than 17,000 unique visitors in January, as well as more than 2 million posts on its mes-

sage board.

The third set of volunteers, a control group, received printed lifestyle recommendations at the start of the study, including instructions on diet and physical activity.

On average, after 30 months, the participants in the personal-contact group regained 8.8 pounds of the 18.7 they had lost earlier; the Internet support

group and control group regained 11.4 and 12.1 pounds respectively.

Svetkey acknowledges that the maintenance results were modest. But, she adds, research suggests that sustaining even small amounts of weight loss can lower blood pressure and reduce the risk of developing diabetes.

Overall, the results are consistent

with what researchers know about keeping weight off, says Karen Miller-Kovach, chief scientific officer for Weight Watchers International, in New York. "One of the things that has been shown previously," she says, "is that continued support from people who helped with the weight-loss process is associated with keeping the weight off."

Sustaining weight loss requires acute vigilance, she says. "The weight only stays off for as long as you're thinking about it and doing something about it. The more engaged you are in keeping that awareness high, keeping that commitment and continuing to do what you need to do, the more likely you are to keep it off."

The study also shows how much work there is to be done in solving the weight regain riddle, says James Hill, director of the Center for Human Nutrition at the University of Colorado, Denver.

"This is a fine study," he says, "but we're talking about a kilogram or two, and most everyone regained weight. The elephant in the room is that there's something else we need to do. 'Maybe we need to say, 'Look, everything we're doing isn't working,' and let's really go back to the creative drawing board and ask, 'What are we missing?'"

## Rating your smile



A study says that patients rate their smiles from memory that might be inaccurate.

By Shari Roan  
(C) 2007, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Both patients and dentists think a nice smile is important, but many people appear to be satisfied with smiles on which their dentists would frown.

Dentists in Norway asked 78 patients to rate their own smiles on a 100-point satisfaction scale, while the patients' own dentists and an independent periodontist also rated the smiles. The patients' average rating was 59.1; the dentists' average rating was 40.7 and the independent periodontist, 38.6.

Study co-author Oystein Fardal said patients rate their smiles from memory that

might be inaccurate. The dentists, however, looked carefully at tooth shading, spacing and crowding and lip lines.

The research, published in December's *Journal of the American Dental Association*, shows that dentists shouldn't assume patients are content or unhappy with their smiles. Even though aesthetic dentistry is big business, many people like the way they look.

"I certainly think patients should ask their dentists' opinions about their smiles if they feel the need to," says Fardal, a periodontist. "However, it is debatable whether dentists should provide their opinions non-prompted."

## Seven myths about health and fitness

By SUSAN BRINK  
(C) 2007, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Eating turkey makes you sleepy. It's the bird's tryptophan, an amino acid, that makes you want to take a nap. Right?

Wrong, say Dr. Rachel Vreeman, research fellow, and Dr. Aaron Carroll, director of the Center for Health Policy and Professionalism, both at Indiana University School of Medicine. They examined that and six other commonly held beliefs in the *British Medical Journal*. They found that turkey, chicken and ground beef each contain about the

same amount of tryptophan per ounce, and pork and Swiss cheese actually contain higher levels. Any large meal slows blood flow and oxygenation to the brain, inducing sleepiness, they found.

They gathered a list of medical beliefs held by their fellow physicians, then subjected seven of them, including the drowsiness-inducing properties of turkey, to scientific review.

Also false or unproven:

■ People should drink at least eight glasses of water per day. (Adequate fluid intake is usually met through juice, milk, caffeinated beverages and

fruits and vegetables.)

■ We use only 10 percent of our brains. (Brain imaging studies show that no area of the brain is completely silent or inactive.)

■ Hair and fingernails grow after death. (Dehydration after death can cause the skin around hair and nails to retract, creating the appearance of increased length.)

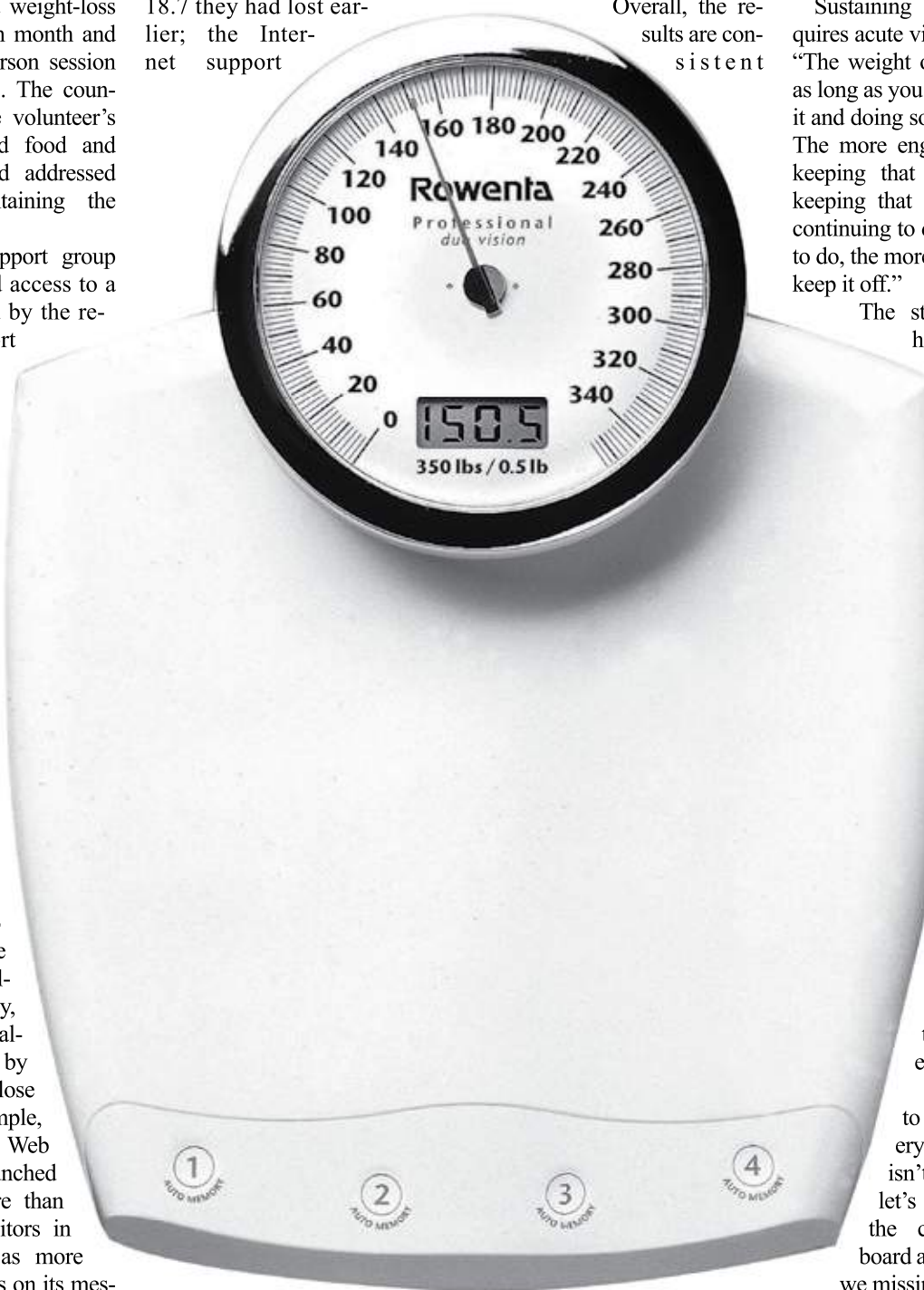
■ Shaving makes hair grow back darker and coarser. (The stubble only appears coarser before it tapers and darker before sun and chemicals lighten it.)

■ Reading in dim light ruins eyesight. (It might cause temporary eye strain, but no perma-

nent damage.)

■ Cell phones interfere with functioning of hospital equipment. (A study in the October 2005 *Journal of the American Medical Association* found that, in more than 500 tests involving 16 medical devices and six cell phones, the rate of clinically relevant interference was 1.2 percent. Use of newer cell phones might result in even less interference. Mayo researchers repeated the study, published in the March 2007 issue of the journal, and found no interference of any kind.)

"Unless you know why something is true," says Carroll, "you should question everything."





## Life & Style

# Last hope in a weak economy? Mom and Dad

By EMILY FREDRIX  
AP BUSINESS WRITER

**MILWAUKEE** (AP)—After being laid off from her job as an events planner at an upscale resort, Jo Ann Bauer struggled financially. She worked at several lower-paying jobs, relocated to a new city and even declared bankruptcy.

Then in December, she finally accepted her parents' invitation to move into their home—at age 52. "I'm back living in the bedroom that I grew up in," she said.

Taking shelter with parents isn't uncommon for young people in their 20s, especially when the job market is poor. But now the slumping economy and the credit crunch are forcing some children to do so later in life—even in middle age.

Financial planners report receiving many calls from parents seeking advice about taking in their grown children following divorces and layoffs.

Kim Foss Erickson, a financial planner in Roseville, Calif., north of Sacramento, said she has never seen older children, even those in their 50s, depend-

ing so much on their parents as in the last six months.

"This is not like, 'OK, my son just graduated from college and needs to move back in' type of thing," she said. "These are 40- and 50-year-old children of my clients that they're helping out."

Parents "jeopardize their financial freedom by continuing to subsidize their children," said Karin Maloney Stifler, a financial planner in Hudson, Ohio, and a board member of the Financial Planning Association. "We have a hard time saying no as a culture to our children, and they keep asking for more."

Bauer's parents won't take rent money or let her help much with groceries. She's trying to save several hundred dollars a month for a house while working as a meetings coordinator.

Bauer would prefer to live on her own, but without her parents' help would "probably be renting again and trying to stick minimal money in the bank," she said.

Shirley Smith, 80, said she and her husband didn't hesitate when they invited Bauer to return to their home in Eden, Wis. Buying groceries for another person isn't stretching her

budget too much, she said.

"I've got three kids and any of them can come home if they want," she said.

But plenty of well-meaning parents must delay retirement or scale back their dreams because they have to help their children, Stifler said.

Some of Erickson's clients are giving as much as \$50,000 at a time to their kids, many of whom have overextended themselves with big houses or lavish lifestyles. And the sliding economy might threaten their jobs.

Parents feel guilty if they don't offer help, but she warns them to be careful with their savings.

"I almost have to act like a financial therapist if you will," she said. "Here is the line I'm drawing for you. That's fine. You can do up to this point, but at this point, now you're starting to erode your own wealth."

Anna Maggiore, 27, lost her job as a publicist in Los Angeles about three years ago and moved into her parents' house in Los Alamos, N.M.

She tried to find jobs, but nothing stuck, so she enrolled full-time at the College of Santa Fe to finish her bach-



AP  
Jo Ann Bauer is seen with her parents Bill and Shirley Smith in their home Wednesday, March 19, 2008, in Eden, Wis. Laid off from her job as a special events manager at an upscale resort, Bauer struggled for four years on her own until December, when she accepted her parents' offer to move into their central Wisconsin home.

elor's degree in business.

She figures her parents spend about \$1,000 a month on her, including a car payment, car and health insurance, school and other costs. Her father is a retired nuclear physicist and her mother,

a guidance counselor, will retire this spring. Now Maggiore is looking for work so she can supplement their income.

"It's kind of hitting me finally that I need to get out there and find a job," she said. "Even if

it's just part-time just to help out however I can."

A new survey by the retiree-advocacy group AARP found that one-fourth of Generation Xers, those 28 to 39 years old, receive financial help from family and friends.

The online survey of nearly 1,800 people ages 19 to 39 also found 57 percent believed they were "financially independent." But in a separate question, 33 percent said they received financial support from family and friends.

Bauer was caught by surprise when her job at a resort in Kohler, Wis., was cut four years ago, one year after she got divorced. The single mother bounced around to several lesser-paying jobs, declared bankruptcy and even moved 60 miles south to Milwaukee.

Her daughter, now 12, moved in with Bauer's ex-husband near her hometown.

Bauer decided to move to be closer to her and in December she found a job with the Experimental Aircraft Association in nearby Oshkosh. She tried to buy a house but needed 5 percent down. She only had 2 percent. She's now saving for a down payment and hopes to have it as early as June.

Bauer said she gets along well with her parents and knows she'll never get to spend so much time with them again. But it hurts her ego to live at home.

"I've had people say to me, 'Oh God, I could never do that,'" she said. "But you take humble steps in order to move forward."

### MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

*We, the family of the late*

*†Consolacion Hocog Naputi*

*wholeheartedly extend our sincerest appreciation and gratitude to all our relatives and friends who prayed, offered condolences and supported us throughout our sorrow upon the loss of our dearest and loving mother, grandmother, and in which gave us strength and courage to endure our trying times.*

*To all—all who have helped us in one way or another, please be assured that you will always be remembered in our thoughts and prayers.*

#### SPECIAL THANKS TO:

*Father Jesse Reyes, Father Charley Borja, St. Jude Choirs, Annie Benavente, Techa: Eleanor Dela Cruz, Bencam, Borja Funeral Home, Carlyn Hofschneider, Alice Deleon Guerrero, E.R./D-side Ward/FCC Nurses and Doctors, Dr. Shewy, Dr. Smith, Dr. Yarofalir, Marianas Home nurse (Christine, Vangie, and staff), Dela Cruz Catering, Family, Friends, Neighbors, and Relatives.*

*May God Bless Us All.*

*Thank You and Dankulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase.*

*Jesus M. Mettao, Children and Family*



## Winokur begged to do 'Dancing'

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Marissa Jaret Winokur didn't have to be swayed into being on "Dancing with the Stars."

"I keep hearing these stories how people turned it down a few times," Winokur said at the William S. Paley Television Festival on Friday. "I banged on their doors. 'Please let me do this show. Please! Please! Please!' It's lived up to all my expectations."

The 35-year-old actress, who won a Tony Award in 2003 for playing Tracy Turnblad in Broadway's "Hairspray," strained to speak during the panel because she said she's beginning to lose her voice.

"I just talk too much," joked Winokur, who's partnered with professional dancer Tony Dovolani on the show.

Winokur and husband Judah Miller are expecting their first child. Winokur, who had cervical cancer seven years ago, said the baby is being carried by a surrogate mother and is due in four months.

Other participants in the Paley festival's "Dancing with the Stars" panel were hosts Tom Bergeron and Samantha Harris; judges Len Goodman and Bruno Tonioli; professional dancers Cheryl Burke, Derek Hough and Julianne Hough; celebrities Cristian de la Fuente, Drew Lachey, Jane Seymour and Kristi Yamaguchi and executive producer Conrad Green.

Actress Marissa Jaret Winokur poses on the press line at the Dancing With The Stars panel discussion at PaleyFest 2008 in Los Angeles on Friday, March 21, 2008.



AP



**NEW ON DISC****GNARLS BARKLEY***"The Odd Couple"***Downtown/Atlantic**

"The Odd Couple" is the most-watched sophomore album in a while, and there's enough interest that Gnarls Barkley moved up the release date by three weeks, presumably to avoid leaks like the one that already loosed the first single, "Run (I'm a Natural Disaster)."

Where "Crazy" was a smooth, futuristic funk song, "Run" takes an old-school soul tack with bursts of brass punctuating busy double-speed percussion.

The duo's modern take on a classic sound runs throughout the new album, a worthy 13-song effort.

It's there in the big, round funk bass line of "Charity Case" and the '60s folk-pop harmonies of "Surprise."

It permeates the late-night atmospherics of "Who's Gonna Save My Soul," a song Marvin Gaye would have loved, and floats in the sampled strings that scroll through the background of the turbulent "Open Book."

"The Odd Couple" is not, however, a throwback record. Singer Cee-Lo Green takes stock of the human condition, often his own, with lyrics born of a dark and uncertain time in the national consciousness. He muses on the pull between selfless and selfish impulses, loneliness and, of course, love, and he freely admits not having many answers. **(Eric R. Danton)**

**SNOOP DOGG***"Ego Trippin' "***Geffen**

Snoop Dogg long ago figured out he could win the first battle by making the second irrelevant. A willing caricature, he captured Middle America by becoming a teddy-bear gangsta—someone with more to gain from a reality series than a weapons charge.

On his ninth album, Snoop plays it safe, focusing on vocoder-driven lover-man jams and odes to his sexual prowess. While it would be disingenuous for him to revisit the gritty gangland lyrics of his youth—he's a multi-millionaire, after all—his pimp-by-numbers approach feels uninspired.

The trouble isn't that Snoop is a well-to-do family man who's no longer in the 'hood, busting caps: He could make a vital record about grown-up concerns—he'd simply rather give fans something he knows they'll buy. **(Kenneth Partridge)**

**DOLLY PARTON***"Backwoods Barbie"***Dolly Records**

Dolly Parton has been a country music icon for nearly 40 years and is still one of the savviest songwriters in the genre.

After rejuvenating her career with a trio of first-rate bluegrass records, Parton, 62,

returns to mainstream country for the first time in a decade with "Backwoods Barbie," a collection that showcases her vitality and versatility.

Her music was the very definition of crossover appeal in the 1970s and '80s, but this time Parton sticks to country with the percolating bounce of "Better Get To Livin'." Her voice is not as full of punch as it once was, but it has lost none of its rich character, whether she is smoldering on the Celtic-infused "Only Dreamin'" or following the jaunty title track with a manner that suits its simple, down-home design.

Her cover of Fine Young Cannibals' "Drives Me Crazy" isn't exactly her forte. But fiddles complement the mellow, jazzy shimmer of "The Lonesomes" and the homespun gospel swell of "Jesus & Gravity."

Still sufficiently brassy to pull off a tune like "Shinola" and eminently capable of angst on "I Will Forever Hate Roses," Parton remains one of the best combinations of personality and technique music has to offer. **(Thomas Kintner)**

**JANET JACKSON***"Discipline"***Island/Def Jam**

It's hard to say what's more grotesque: the intimations of incest and S&M that fuel the title track of Janet Jackson's 10th solo album, or the way Janet, like her older brother, has again taken up residence at some unhealthy midpoint between naive adolescence and troubled adulthood.

"Discipline" is overall far more innocent than the soft-porn embarrassment of 2004's "Damita Jo," for example, yet when juxtaposed with the album's bubble-gum bounce, the creepy parts just seem creepier.

True, the breathy pop songs here—crafted by the likes of Ne-Yo, Stargate and boyfriend Jermaine Dupri in the absence of longtime producers/mentors Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis—are sometimes as catchy and doe-eyed as the best Jackson jams. "Rollercoaster" and "Rock With U," in particular, are marzipan confections that easily out-sugar any current teen diva.

Next to such material, however, the pedophilic processed vocal of "So Much Betta" and the menstrual metaphor on "Feedback" sit uncomfortably. More significantly, when an artist who's shown the ability to create more substantial music regresses to the level of puppet pinup—she has only a single co-write, after taking an active role in creating her last album, the far superior "20 Y.O."—you can't help recommending less "Discipline" instead of more. **(Dan LeRoy)**

(c) 2008, The Hartford Courant

*In Celebration of Her New Life*†Isabel Cepeda  
Deleon Guerrero**Born: July 5, 1947 – Died: March 18, 2008***Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:***Husband:** Jose Masga Deleon Guerrero**Daughter and Grandchildren**

Velma Jeanne DLG. Dela Cruz

Chelsea Bianca, Tasha Renae, Ernie Joe, Luis Jacob

**Reared Children**

Herman Vincent Cepeda, Nicole Rosemary Cepeda

*She will also be missed by her sisters and in-laws:*

Victoria B. Cepeda and Children

Larry &amp; Antonia C. Cepeda and Family

Guadalupe M. Cepeda and Children

Rosa M. Cepeda and Children

Gerardo &amp; Lourdes C. Panguilinan and

daughter Maria Cepeda

Jose Pangelinan and Children

Herman &amp; Asunta T. Deleon Guerrero and Family

Edward M. Deleon Guerrero and Children

John &amp; Lisa Deleon Guerrero and Family

Thomas &amp; Olivia C. Deleon Guerrero and Family

Francisco &amp; Joanne T. Deleon Guerrero and Family

Vicente &amp; Nadine S. Deleon Guerrero and Family

David Deleon Guerrero &amp; Frances Rebuenog and Family

Santiago &amp; Tara Deleon Guerrero and Family

Douglas &amp; Regina DLG. Cushnie and Family

Ben &amp; Joaquina DLG. Salas and Family

Magdalena Deleon Guerrero &amp; Edward Aguon and Family

John &amp; Mary Ann DLG. Sablan and Family

Lucia M. Deleon Guerrero and Children

Ignacio &amp; Vivian S. Deleon Guerrero and Family

*In her new life she now joins her:***Parents:** †Vicente Ilano Cepeda

†Nicolasa Manibusan Cepeda

**Parents-In-Law:** †Ignacio Sablan Deleon Guerrero

†Teofilia Masga Deleon Guerrero

**Son-In-Law:** †Ernie Teigita Dela Cruz*Sister, Brothers and In-Laws:*

†Trinidad Manibusan Cepeda

†Albert Manibusan Cepeda

†Jose Manibusan Cepeda

†Luis Manibusan Cepeda

†Henry Manibusan Cepeda

†Maria Sakisat Pangelinan

†Lourdes Cabrera Deleon Guerrero

On Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 7:00 a.m., she will be escorted from CHC Morgue to Santa Soledad Church for final viewing and last respect. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m. at Santa Soledad Church, followed by burial at Tanapag Cemetery. Lunch will follow thereafter at the Tanapag Social Hall.

God Bless Us All.

**The Family**



## Romantic TV ads raise bar too high for real-life men

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband gets aggravated with romantic commercials on television—the ones where men do sweet things for their wives, like putting jewelry on them while they sleep, or pulling out that special gift at the dinner table. He says the commercials try to make men feel guilty because they aren't like the ones portrayed.



*Dear Abby*

I have tried telling him that men are, indeed, this way, but I couldn't think of any examples other than my brother and my father, who are very romantic.

There are more than two men who excel at romance, aren't there? Don't most men know how to sweep a woman off her feet?

KELLY IN AUSTIN

**DEAR KELLY:** Although I haven't taken a poll, I'm guessing that a majority of men know how to sweep a woman off her feet—which is why the species has survived. However, your husband has a point. Gifts are not the only way to make someone special feel loved.

Commercials are created in order to manipulate the public into buying, and if the amount of consumer debt being carried by U.S. households is any indication, that strategy has been extremely successful.

While diamonds may be "a girl's best friend," most women know that a life partner who gives them attention, affection, praise and assistance when they need it is a jewel more precious than any stone could ever be.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** My boyfriend, "Russell," and I have been together almost five years. He recently started school to become a plumber. The problem is, Russell has dyslexia and is struggling in school. When I try to help him with his homework, he becomes defensive. He knows he needs tutoring, but hasn't put forth any effort into seeking help.

There's a test he needs to pass before his next class starts in May. He has already failed it once. How can I help him?

DESPERATE GIRLFRIEND

**DEAR DESPERATE:** Different people have different learning styles. Some people learn from books while others learn more easily by watching how things are done.

Encourage Russell to check at his school to see if anyone there could refer him to a tutor specializing in learning disorders. He could also check to see if any of the local plumbing companies offer an apprenticeship program that will provide him with on-the-job training rather than classwork.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** Will you please advise me on how to tell our computer friends not to send "junk" e-mail? My husband and I are annoyed with all the chain letters, jokes, cartoons, opinion letters, cutesy pictures, etc. we are receiving. I don't bother to read them, but deleting them is time-consuming.

Why do people assume we're interested when we never asked for this kind of stuff? All it does is fill up our mailboxes.

I stopped passing along this form of entertainment years ago, but people still keep sending the rubbish, even when I politely ask them to stop. Changing my e-mail address won't help. I want to correspond with friends, and do not want to hurt their feelings. I just want to eliminate the trash. Any suggestions on what we can say or do to stop the junk?

OVERFLOWING IN TRAVERSE CITY, MICH.

**DEAR OVERFLOWING:** Maybe you're being too polite. You need to be firm and specific. Reply to an unwanted e-mail by telling the sender that you aren't interested in this kind of "entertainment." Eventually, your friends will get the message.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)*

## Britney Spears' TV wardrobe up for sale



**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—It seems almost everybody wants a piece of Britney Spears, and at least six pieces are officially for sale.

Spears' wardrobe from her guest-starring stint on CBS' "How I Met Your Mother" will be sold at an online auction to benefit the Natural Resources Defense Council, an environmental organization.

The weeklong auction begins Monday night, just after the episode featuring the pop star is set to air. Spears plays a flirty receptionist who falls for show's main character.

A half-dozen Spears-worn items will be available, including a navy print Juicy Couture dress, a yellow Nannette Lepore dress and a cream Nannette Lepore cardigan with blue flower details.

CBS and 20th Century Fox Television, which produces the show, are sponsoring the auction.

This photo released by CBS Broadcasting shows actor Josh Radnor as Ted, right, and guest star Britney Spears as Abby, in a scene from "How I met Your Mother."

AP

## Dolly Parton issues album on own label

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)**—Dolly Parton knows a good investment when she sees one, and these days she sees one in the mirror.

Parton, whose business portfolio includes a theme park and an entertainment production company, says she's spending a lot of her own money trying to get back on country radio with her new CD, "Backwoods Barbie."

"I'm looking at it like an investment," she told The Associated Press. "I thought, 'I've made enough money. I can afford to invest a little in myself.'"

She has self-released the disc on her own label, Dolly Records, and hired a seven-member promotions team.

"I purposely tailor-made this

to try to get some hits," Parton explained.

The album reached No. 2 on Billboard in its second week, her best showing in 17 years.

The first single, "Better Get to Livin'," a country-pop song she describes as sonically similar to Keith Urban, sputtered at No. 48. But the second single, "Jesus & Gravity," is just now arriving at radio.

At age 62, Parton remains an icon and inspiration to younger singers.

"I don't think there's anything that woman can't do," said rising country star Kellie Pickler, who calls Parton her greatest influence. "She just walks into a room and lights it up. She's got that 'it' factor that money can't

buy. She's the whole package."

Music Row began to lose interest in Parton in the '90s as a new crop of country stars emerged. Her last Top 5 hit, "Rockin' Years," was in 1991, and she hasn't had a major label record deal in 10 years.

"When it changed I was still as serious as ever and was thinking I'm still as good as ever, if I ever was any good," Parton said.

She has watched with interest as new technology has created opportunities without the big labels.

"Now the majors are what they used to think I was: history," she said.

"I thought this is a good time, but I need to make an all-out effort. ... Whatever it takes, you fight for it. You do what you have to do to feed your habit, and I'm a music addict."



Parton

## Cuban bassist Cachao dies; mambo pioneer

**MIAMI (AP)**—Cuban bassist and composer Israel "Cachao" Lopez, who is credited with pioneering the mambo style of music, died Saturday. He was 89.

Known simply as Cachao, the Grammy-winning musician had fallen ill in the past week and died surrounded by family members at Coral Gables Hospital, spokesman Nelson Albarada said.

Cachao left communist Cuba and came to the United States in the early 1960s. He continued to perform into his late 80s, including a performance after the death of trombonist Generoso Jimenez in September 2007.

Cuban-American actor Andy

Garcia, who made a 1993 documentary about the bassist's career, credited Cachao with being a major influence in Cuban musical history and said his passing marked the end of an era.

"Cachao is our musical father. He is revered by all who have come in contact with him and his music," Garcia said in a statement Saturday. "Maestro ... you have been my teacher, and you took me in like a son. So I will continue to rejoice with your music and carry our traditions wherever I go, in your honor."

Cachao was born in Havana in 1918 to a family of musicians. A classically trained bassist, he began performing with the Ha-

vana symphony orchestra as a teenager, working under the baton of visiting guest conductors, such as Herbert von Karajan, Igor Stravinsky and Heitor Villa-Lobos, during his nearly 30-year career with the orchestra.

He also wrote hundreds of songs in Cuba for bands and orchestras, many based on the classic Cuban music style known as son.

He and his late brother, multi-instrumentalist Orestes Lopez, created the mambo in the late 1930s. The mambo emerged from their improvisational work with the danzon, an elegant musical style that lends itself to slow dancing.

## Pamela Anderson's marriage nears end

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Pamela Anderson's new husband—apparently a specialist in short relationships with celebrities—agrees that their two-month marriage should be voided, according to court papers filed Friday.

Rick

S a - lomon agrees in papers responding to a filing by the



Anderson

"Baywatch" actress that the marriage should be annulled because of fraud, though neither set of documents elaborated.

Salomon did not ask for spousal support and asked that it not be awarded to Anderson.

A phone message left for Anderson's publicist was not immediately returned Friday.

Salomon is known for making a sex videotape with then-girlfriend Paris Hilton and was previously married to actress Shannen Doherty for nine months.

He and Anderson were married Oct. 6 in Las Vegas and separated Dec. 13.

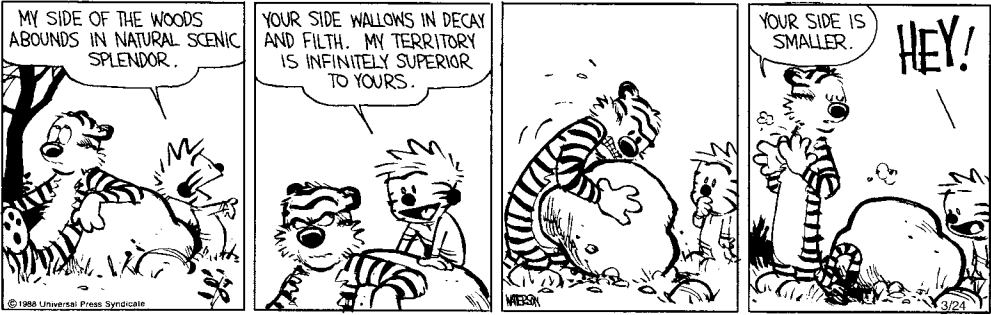
Anderson, 40, was previously married to singer Kid Rock and Motley Crue drummer Tommy Lee.



Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



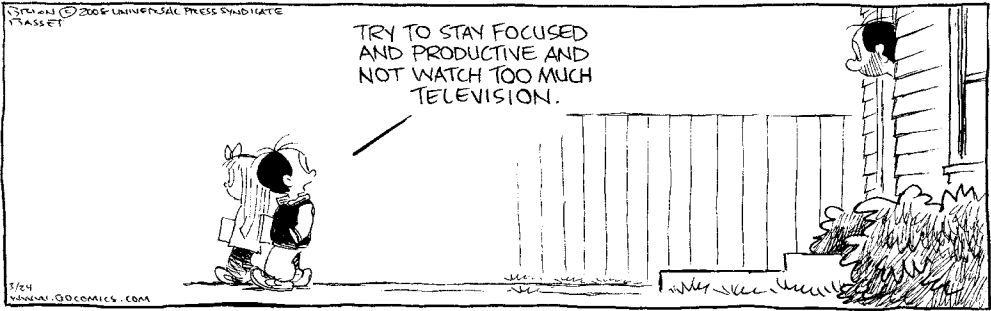
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Many times, in poetry

4 Moorehead or De Mille

9 Leading lady?

12 Existed

13 Treasure

14 Twice VII

15 Took undue advantage of

17 Handheld organizer (Abbr.)

18 Raggedy doll

19 Loose overcoat

21 Got one's teeth into

24 Old portico

25 Bagel topper

26 New-comer to society

28 Tends texts

31 Datebook notation (Abbr.)

33 Massage

35 Break suddenly

36 Odometer

38 Grumpy companion?

40 Historic time

41 Utah city

43 Straight-forwardness

45 Vegas building

47 Ostrich's cousin

48 Black cuckoo

49 Dirty word

54 Gun the engine

55 "La Gioconda" aria, "— e mar!"

56 Scarlet

57 Ram's mate

58 Sponsorship

59 Past

DOWN

1 Havebills

2 Send quickly

3 Recipe abbr.

4 Expiated (for)

5 Molar

6 "... or — to be"

7 Partner of Tinker and Chance

8 Tranquilize

9 Told how or why

10 "Livin' La — Loca"

11 Author Hunter

16 Legislation

20 Pantheon figures

21 Untalkative one

22 Kachina worshiper

23 TNT, for instance

27 Unopened rose

29 Poi base

30 Shadow-box, e.g.

32 Actress Hatcher

34 Tenor Andrea

37 Roman dramatist

39 Bit roles

42 Courage

44 Enthusiast

45 Part of TLC

46 From the beginning

50 Pirate costume feature

51 A Gershwin brother

52 What couch potatoes do

53 Tokyo's old name

Solution time: 24 mins.

Saturday's answer 3-24

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Peyton Manning, 32; Alyson Hannigan, 34; Sharon Corr, 38; Tommy Hilfinger, 57

**Happy Birthday:** If you take on too much too fast, the problems that arise will discourage you from moving forward. Another stab at a goal you have unsuccessfully attempted in the past will take on a new life. A relationship you may have some problems with can be resolved if you are compassionate and remain calm. Your numbers are 3, 14, 23, 27, 32, 37

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Concentrate on sending out positive vibes, no matter what's going on around you. Anger will not solve problems but thinking matters through and coming up with a viable solution will. Don't overextend yourself. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** You can make things happen if you take the initiative. With a little charm, you will get others to do things for you, making it easy to pull things together. A strong connection with someone will help you close a deal. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** There will be too many choices, variables or people involved to get things perfect. Take a wait-and-see approach. An older relative or child is likely to be a burden. Fix the problem and move on. \*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** You will be able to wheel-and-deal with the best of them today, so don't hesitate to make your point. Love is looking very positive and travel plans can include both work and pleasure. \*\*\*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Don't be fooled into thinking something is easy because someone else makes it look that way. Go through all the motions if you want to get things right. Do your research or you will fall short of your goals. \*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You can't go wrong if you follow the plan you put together. An opportunity will be made available. Love is on the rise and a partnership will take on a whole new meaning for you. Don't feel you have to make changes at home just yet. \*\*\*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Work should be your prime concern. Whether looking to change positions, advance or start something new, now is the perfect time to give it your best shot. An unusual opportunity will bring you rewards beyond your wildest dreams. \*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** There are deals to be finalized, settlements that can bring you gains, and investments in your surroundings that will be beneficial. Don't let things ride when there is so much to do that can put you in a great position. Love is on the rise. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Someone you rely on will let you down if you don't follow his or her advice. You can expect to face problems with anyone who is sitting in a key position. A friendship will be on shaky ground—make amends. \*\*\*

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Do things differently and you will surprise everyone with your adaptability and uniqueness. A change in the way you earn your

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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living will turn into a greater opportunity than you first imagined. A partnership can be taken to several different levels. \*\*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Don't give away what you've worked so hard to keep. You can't let your ego get in the way of a decision that could potentially leave you in a handicapped position. Don't let others cost you financially, emotionally or legally. \*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Take whatever you are doing to the next level with confidence. You can make positive changes to your surroundings. Whether you are in a relationship or not, a favorable romantic turn is about to come your way. \*\*\*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are drawn to the unusual, are secretive about what you do and are emotionally intense when you believe in something or care about someone. You are determined and meticulous.

Eugenia's Web sites: [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun, [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level ★ 3/24

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

I WANT A REFUND! Solution: 10 letters

S E I L P U S R S C A R F P  
S D E S K S H I R T E A E T O  
Y S R T C O A T N E K A T S H  
R R P A V H T L F E E H U M S  
E E L E C T R O N I C S P U S  
L C L E A N H T O S G A M B E  
T A R S W K O G I L K C O L R  
U M A R W E E I I S S O C A D  
C E E O A E J R S L O I O T K  
M R G S R S S E S S H P N C  
Y A L S E K S A M E E S E E  
E D O I S E C I R V E D S A H  
N I V C T E A R R I N G S L C  
O O E S A T N E T T O G R O F  
M E R C H A N D I S E T A L P

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Albums, Books, Camera, Cards, Cash, Chair, Check, Coat, Computer, Cutlery, Debt, Deposit, Desk, Devices, Dress, Earrings, Electronics, Flashlight, Forgotten, Gear, Gift, Glove, Hats, Jewelry, Mask, Merchandise, Money, Movies, Possession, Radio, Rake, Scarf, Scissors, Shirt, Shop, Shovel, Speakers, Supplies, Taken, Tools, Vase, Vehicle, Wares

Last Saturday's Answer: Credible

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 15, 22, 23, 24, 25 or 26, send \$5.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Press Syndicate plus \$3 postage for the first book order, \$1 plus for each additional book. Send to WONDERWORD, 4520 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111 or call toll-free, 1-800-295-6734, ext. 6688. Order online at [upuzzles.com](http://upuzzles.com). (Contains 45 puzzles, 9 of which are the large, 26 x 20 size)

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5951 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



# CLASSIFIED ADS

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

### CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	<b>\$25</b>
• 5-Liner	<b>\$35</b>
• 3-Liner with picture	<b>\$45</b>
• 5-Liner with picture	<b>\$55</b>

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

All job vacancy announcements will be published for two issues in each of two successive weeks.

<b>1st position</b>	<b>\$13.00</b>
<b>2nd position</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>
<b>Succeeding positions</b>	<b>\$2.00</b>

These rates apply to all job vacancy announcements on Saipan that include corresponding benefits and positions that are all under the same company name and dba.

Newspaper clippings are also available for \$.25 per copy.

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

#### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

#### Job Vacancy Announcements

Monday Through Friday Issues: All ads placed before 12 noon will come out the next publication date.

Saturday And Sunday Issues:  
- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

### CANCELLATION

#### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

#### Job Vacancy Announcements

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished  
1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water \$210/month,  
near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

MANICURIST WANTED  
Charlie Chong Beauty Salon.  
Apply in person. Middle Rd. Gualo Rai

1 AUTO MECHANIC (SM 0040)  
Salary:\$3.55-\$4.00/hour. Benefits: Workmen's compensation & medical expense. Contact:A.C.C.S. Corporation dba Cartown @233-9441.

1 ACCOUNTANT (SM 0041)  
Salary:\$3.55-\$5.00/hour. Benefits: Employee may be eligible for bonus based on internal policies; workers compensation & medical. Contact: Marianas Eye Institute @235-9090.

1 COMMERCIAL CLEANER (SM 0042)  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self provided housing; self provided food; medical & workmen compensation. Contact: Mark

WHATZIT Solution:  
Out on a limb

D. Pangelinan dba ABM Auto  
Body Repair Shop @285-3212.

1 PROGRAMMER (SM 0043)  
Salary:\$650.00-\$700.00/monthly. Benefits: Self arrange housing; employee provided food; medical & workers compensation. Duties: Converts data from project specifications and statement of problems and procedures to create or modify computer program. Prepares and receives from systems analyst the workflow chart and diagram to illustrate sequence of steps that program must follow and to describe input, output and logical operations involved. Must know about programs of Synchronic Point of sale System & Peachtree accounting software. Contact: Saipan Computer Services, Inc. @234-9110.

1 COOK (SM 0045)  
Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Self arrange housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation & medical. Contact: Lucky R. Corporation @235-5009.

1 ADMIN. ASSISTANT (SM 0046)  
Salary:\$4.00/hour. Benefits: Self arrange housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation & medical. Contact: Numbers Int'l Inc. @235-5009.

1 ACCOUNTANT (SM 0044)  
Salary:\$650.00-\$1,200.00/monthly. Benefits: Self arrange housing; employee provided food; medical & workers compensation. Duties: Prepares & compile financial records and reports such General Ledger, Cash receipts, Cash disbursement, Bank Reconciliation, monthly & annual financial statement. Reconciliation, receiving, recording & costing of inventory. Prepares payroll, monthly & quarterly reports of taxes & other government reports. Reconcile accts receivable and customer's records such as recording of payments & billing. Must know how to use Synchronic Point of sale system, Realworld & Peachtree Acctg. Software. Responsible for technical support of Counter POS & Peachtree accounting software. Contact: Saipan Computer Services, Inc. @234-9110.

WANTED  
AVON  
REPRESENTATIVE  
Earn easy additional income  
30% to 50% commission.  
Please call Jojo Faler  
at 323-4455 or 483-1971

FOR RENT  
ONE BR. APT. NEAR MHS, in a quiet, secure area behind Calvo's Market, off Texas Rd. 24hrs. govt. & rain water. Fully air conditioned with dresser and walk in closet. All rooms have ceiling fans. Can be semi-furn. w/stove, frig & washer, dining table and chairs for \$375, water included of fully furnished and air cond. for \$425. Call Ed at 235-0409.

CHC VOLUNTEERS' GARAGE SALE  
Saturday, March 29, 2008  
Set up - 6:30am - 7:30am  
Sale - 8:00am - 3:00pm  
CHC Parking Area  
Clean out your closet!  
It's a great opportunity to  
sell things you no longer  
need and find just what  
you are looking for!  
Tent spaces cost \$20 and  
are limited. Call Kim Prinz  
@ 287-2428 or email:  
kprinz@excite.com to  
reserve your space now!

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT  
INVITATION TO BID  
ITB No.: ITB08-WIA-049  
OPENING DATE: APRIL 03, 2008 TIME: 11:00 A.M.  
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Salary:\$1,972.00-\$2,200.00/monthly. Benefits: Taxes. Contact: Asia Pacific Hotels, Inc. dba Saipan Grand Hotel @234-6601.

1 ACCOUNTANT (SM 0053)  
Salary:\$3.55-\$8.65/hour. Benefits: Self arrange housing; medical coverage expenses; vacation leave (earned after 1 yr. of service); sick leave (earned after 90 days of service); compassionate leave; employees discount & workers compensation. Contact: Asia Pacific Hotels, Inc. dba Saipan Grand Hotel @234-6601.

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Salary:\$3.55-\$3.75/hour. Benefits: \$30.00/monthly housing deduction; medical coverage expenses; vacation leave (earned after 1 yr. of service); sick leave (earned after 90 days of service); compassionate leave; employees discount & workers compensation. Contact: Asia Pacific Hotels, Inc. dba Saipan Grand Hotel @234-6601.

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING  
Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has rescheduled a Board of Trustees Regular Meeting for Friday, March 28, 2008 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Plumeria Room, Saipan World Resort; Saipan, MP.  
The following agenda is hereby established:  
I PRELIMINARIES  
■ Call to Order  
■ Roll Call  
■ Adoption of Agenda  
■ Adoption of Minutes  
II CONSULTANT REPORTS  
■ Legal Counsel Reports\*  
■ Loan Administrator Reports  
■ Investment Consultant Reports  
■ Flash Reports –January/February 2007  
■ Market Volatility Presentation  
■ Board Consultant Reports  
■ Financial Statements – February 2007  
III CHAIRMAN'S REPORT  
■ Office Space Matters  
IV OLD BUSINESS  
V NEW BUSINESS  
VI EXECUTIVE SESSION  
At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.  
VII MISCELLANEOUS  
VIII ADJOURNMENT  
\* It is anticipated that the following matters will be discussed under Executive Session in its entirety.  
In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body.  
All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.  
/s/ Alvaro A. Santos  
Chairman, Board of Trustees



**JOB OPPORTUNITIES****1 GARDENER (SM 0055)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: \$30.00/monthly housing deduction; medical coverage expenses; vacation leave (earned after 1 yr. of service); sick leave (earned after 90 days of service); compassionate leave; employees discount & workers compensation. Contact: Asia Pacific Hotels, Inc. dba Saipan Grand Hotel @234-6601.

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**2 MAINTENANCE BUILDING REPAIR (MW 0024)**

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Salary:\$3.55-\$4.05/hour. Benefits: Medical expense & workman compensation. Contact: Rifu Apparel Corp. dba Garment @234-9602.

**3 MAINTENANCE MECHANIC (MW 0027)**

Salary:\$3.55-\$4.00/hour. Benefits: Medical expense & workman compensation. Contact: Rifu Apparel Corp. dba Garment @234-9602.

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**14 CUTTER (MW 0029)**

Salary:\$3.55-\$4.00/hour. Benefits: Medical expense & workman compensation. Contact: Rifu Apparel Corp. dba Garment @234-9602.

**12 PRESSER (MW 0030)**

Salary:\$3.55-\$4.00/hour. Benefits: Medical expense & workman compensation. Contact: Rifu Apparel Corp. dba Garment @234-9602.

**35 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR (MW 0031)**

Salary:\$3.55-\$4.00/hour. Benefits: Medical expense & workman compensation. Contact: Rifu Apparel Corp. dba Garment @234-9602.

**1 ACCOUNTANT (MW 0032)**

Salary:\$3.55-\$4.00/hour. Benefits: Medical expense & workman compensation. Contact: Rifu Apparel Corp. dba Garment @234-9602.

**10 QUALITY CONTROL CHECKER/INSPECTOR (MW 0033)**

Salary:\$3.55-\$4.00/hour. Benefits: Medical expense & workman compensation. Contact: Rifu Apparel Corp. dba Garment @234-9602.

**1 CARPENTER (MW 0034)**

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**13 DANCER (MW 0035)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Company provided housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Japan Enterprises Corporation @233-1545.

**6 WAITRESS/WAITER (MW 0036)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Free housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Japan Enterprises Corporation @233-1545.

**10 DANCER (MW 0037)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Free housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical

coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Japan Enterprises Corporation @233-1545.

**6 WAITRESS/WAITER (MW 0038)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Company provided housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Japan Enterprises Corporation @233-1545.

**1 SUPERVISOR (WM 0039)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Company provided housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**14 SINGER (MW 0040)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Free housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**11 DANCER (MW 0041)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Free housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**6 WAITRESS/WAITER (MW 0042)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Free housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**1 (ASST.) MANAGER NIGHT CLUB (MW 0043)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Free housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**1 SUPERVISOR (MW 0044)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Company provided housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free

transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**14 SINGER (MW 0045)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Free housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**11 DANCER (MW 0046)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Free housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**6 WAITRESS/WAITER (MW 0047)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Free housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**1 (ASST.) MANAGER NIGHT CLUB (MW 0048)**

Salary:\$3.55-\$4.00/hour. Benefits:

Company provided housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**1 (ASST.) MANAGER NIGHT CLUB (MW 0049)**

Salary:\$3.55-\$4.00/hour. Benefits: Company provided housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**11 SINGER (MW 0050)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Free housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

**10 DANCER (MW 0051)**

Salary:\$3.55/hour. Benefits: Free housing; self provided food; workmen's compensation; medical coverage & free transportation to and from work place. Contact: Jaguar Company Limited @233-1545.

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**235-NEWS**





# Collison's heroics lift UCLA past A&M



**ANAHEIM, Calif.** (AP)—Those UCLA Bruins keep finding more drama and ways to win in the closing seconds. Darren Collison scored the go-ahead basket on a one-handed layin with 9 1/2 seconds remaining, Josh Shipp blocked Donald Sloan's final drive and the West Region's No. 1 seed held on for a 53-49 victory over Texas A&M in the second round of the NCAA tournament Saturday night.

The Bruins (33-3) won their 12th in a row and will face Western Kentucky or San Diego next week in Phoenix.

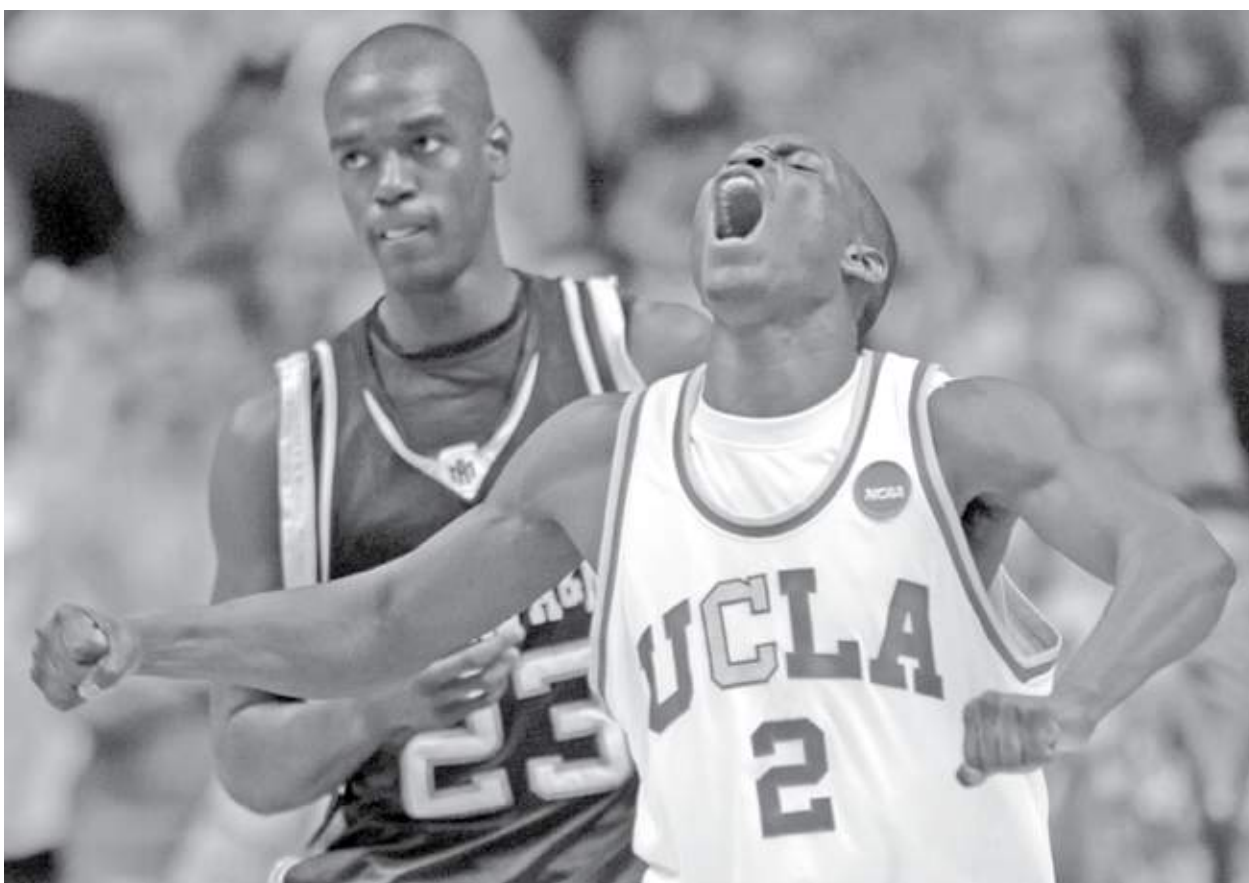
"That was reminiscent of a lot of games we seem to be in lately, where we're having to make dramatic comebacks in the last few minutes," UCLA coach Ben Howland said. "But the one thing that I love about our team is that they know in their heart they're always going to win the game. They're going to find a way."

Urged on by a pro-UCLA crowd that made it seem like a home game, the Bruins rallied from a 10-point deficit in the second half.

Freshman Kevin Love had 19 points and 11 rebounds—his 21st double-double—and UCLA overcame the combined 3-of-14 shooting of Shipp and Russell Westbrook. Love had seven of UCLA's 11 blocked shots.

Sloan led the Aggies (25-11) with 12 points and Josh Carter added 10. A&M was trying to get back to the final 16 for the second straight year. Instead, the Aggies fell to 7-10 in NCAA tournament games and 0-4 against UCLA.

"I thought we were in total control, always one step ahead," first-year A&M coach Mark Turgeon said. "I



UCLA's Darren Collison (2) celebrates scoring to put his team ahead of Texas A&M in the final minute of their second round basketball game at the NCAA West Regional on Saturday, March 22, 2008 in Anaheim, Calif.

thought we were going to win."

Collison led UCLA with 21 points, including 14 in the first half when he didn't miss a shot from the field, line or 3-point range.

Love, the newcomer to NCAA tournament pressure, and Collison, the wily veteran of consecutive Final Four appearances, dominated the final 3 minutes. Love converted consecutive turnaround jumpers—one tied it at 45 and

the other gave the Bruins their first lead since late in the first half.

"Kevin's two little fallaways were incredible shots," Howland said. "Those are like little H-O-R-S-E shot plays, unbelievable with that kind of stuff on the line. Your season's on the line and he could step up and make those plays. That's why he's a great player."

But Joseph Jones, who bumped and clawed with Love in the post most of

the game, got in front of the Pac-10 Player of the Year and scored A&M's first field goal in nearly 10 minutes to tie it at 47.

The first of Collison's two one-handed layins put the Bruins back in front by two with 55 seconds left. Sloan tied it for the final time at 49 before Collison floated in another one-hander, furiously pounding his chest as the crowd exploded with 9 1/2 seconds left.

"Once the time clock goes zero, zero, we'll stop playing," Collison said. "We've been through that all season. We knew what we had to do; we knew who was going to win, and all the coaches said we just had to do the right things to win the game."

Shipp was credited with the block on Sloan's desperate drive, and Westbrook punctuated the comeback with a fast-break dunk at the buzzer that triggered a huge celebration on one bench and sadness on the other.

The game provided all of the drama that was missing in UCLA's 41-point opening win over Mississippi Valley State.

The Aggies outscored the Bruins 27-11 over both halves, including 8-0 and 7-0 runs, for a 36-26 lead. Carter opened the second half with a 3-pointer, then his jumper hit the side of the backboard and went in before Jones scored around Love to give the Aggies their largest lead.

That's when UCLA rallied with a 17-8 run. Love scored seven, Collison hit his fifth 3-pointer over 7-foot DeAndre Jordan and Westbrook scored four in a row—his first points of the game—to cut it to 44-43 with 5:51 remaining.

Even as the Bruins were scratching their way back, they were missing shots and committing some of their 14 turnovers. But the Aggies had their own problems, with Jordan and Carter picking up their third fouls at the same time.

Luc Richard Mbah a Moute returned for the Bruins after missing two games with a sprained left ankle. He was clearly rusty, with a team-high eight turnovers and four fouls.

Turgeon had predicted the first team to 50 would win. It just wasn't his.

## West's 37 points leads Hornets to comeback win over Celtics



**NEW ORLEANS** (AP)—David West scored 37 points and the New Orleans Hornets overcame an early 15-point deficit to defeat the Boston Celtics 113-106 in the NBA on Saturday.

Chris Paul, despite playing only 28 minutes because of foul trouble, had 19 points and hit a pair of clutch jumpers in the waning minutes as New Orleans added a win over the mighty Celtics to recent triumphs over San Antonio, the Los Angeles Lakers and Houston.

Paul Pierce had 16 of his 28 points in the first quarter and the Celtics shot better than 60 percent and led by double digits until well into the third. But Boston seemed to tire in the fourth as New Orleans surged to its ninth straight victory at home while stopping Boston's road winning streak at eight.

### 76ers 91, Nets 87

At Philadelphia, Andre Iguodala scored 19 of his 28 points in the second half, Samuel Dalembert had 11 points, 18 rebounds and five blocks, and Philadelphia beat New Jersey.

Vince Carter led New Jersey with 27 points but was only 10-for-25 from the floor. Richard Jefferson was held to 11 points on 3-for-15 shooting.

### Hawks 98, Magic 90

At Atlanta, Joe Johnson scored 34 points, Mike Bibby had 20 and Josh Smith 19 in Atlanta's sixth straight home victory over Orlando.

The Magic dropped to 22-2 on the

road when entering the fourth quarter with a lead. Hedo Turkoglu led Orlando with 18 points.

### Bucks 108, Cavaliers 98

At Milwaukee, Mo Williams scored 27 points and Milwaukee snapped a six-game losing streak by beating Cleveland.

LeBron James scored 29 to lead Cleveland, which has won nine straight at home but lost seven of the last eight on the road, including five straight.

### Jazz 115, SuperSonics 101

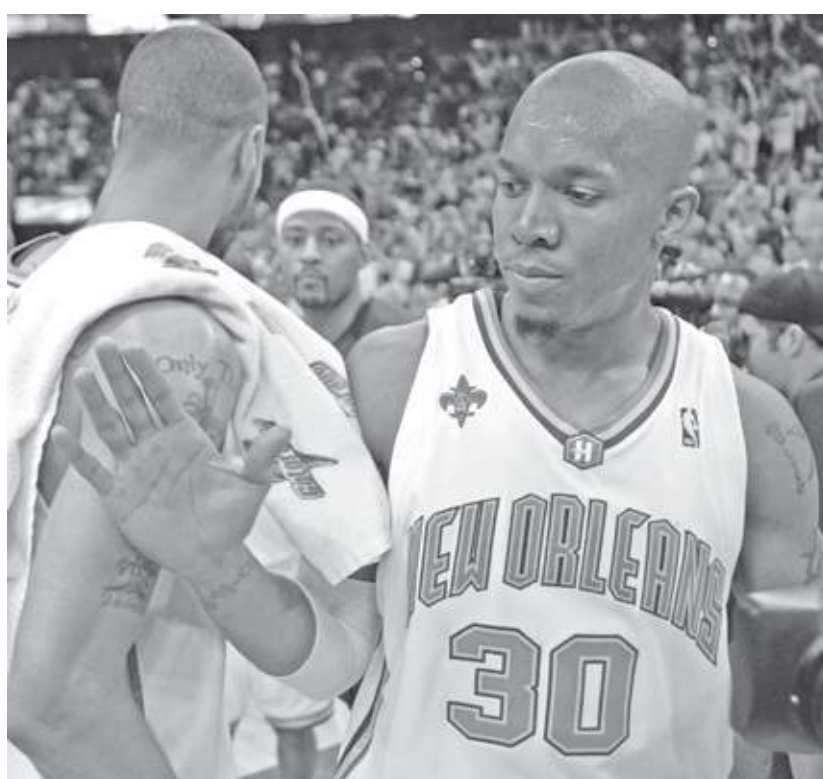
At Salt Lake City, Carlos Boozer had 26 points and 13 rebounds, and Mehmet Okur added 24 points and 10 rebounds to help Utah beat reeling Seattle.

Jeff Green had a career-high 23 points and fellow rookie Kevin Durant also scored 23 points for the Sonics, outscored 63-40 in the second half. Seattle has lost its last nine road games by an average of more than 20 points.

### Pacers 108, Bulls 101

At Chicago, Mike Dunleavy scored 25 points, Troy Murphy added 24, and Indiana extended its winning streak to a season-best four games with a comeback victory over Chicago.

Danny Granger added 18 points and 10 rebounds for the Pacers, who pulled into a tie with New Jersey for ninth place in the Eastern Conference, trailing Atlanta by 1 1/2 games for the eighth and final playoff spot.



New Orleans Hornets' David West (30) receives congratulations from teammates after defeating the Boston Celtics 113-106 in the NBA basketball game in New Orleans, Saturday, March 22, 2008. West scored 37-points to lead all Hornets in scoring.

### Bobcats 94, Heat 82

At Charlotte, North Carolina, Gerald Wallace scored 26 points, Jason Richardson 24, and Charlotte held off an early fourth-quarter rally to beat Miami to snap a five-game losing streak.

Jason Williams scored 19 points, Ricky Davis had 15 and Chris Quinn 14 for the injury-riddled Heat, who

dressed just nine players in losing their third straight and 11th in 13 games in March.

### Timberwolves 114, Knicks 93

At Minneapolis, Ryan Gomes scored 26 points, reserve Rashad McCants had 24, and Minnesota beat New York.

Al Jefferson had only eight points, just his third single-digit scoring game of the season for Minnesota.

Reserve Malik Rose had 20 points for the Knicks, who have lost 11 of 12.

### Grizzlies 117, Kings 111

At Memphis, Tennessee, Juan Carlos Navarro scored 11 of his 22 points in the fourth quarter and Memphis held on to beat Sacramento.

Rudy Gay scored 24 points and Darko Milicic had 19 points and 10 rebounds for Memphis, which has won consecutive games for only the second time this season. Seven Grizzlies scored in double figures, including all five starters.

Kevin Martin led the Kings with 29 points, and Spencer Hawes had career highs with 19 points and 12 rebounds.

### Trail Blazers 83, Clippers 72

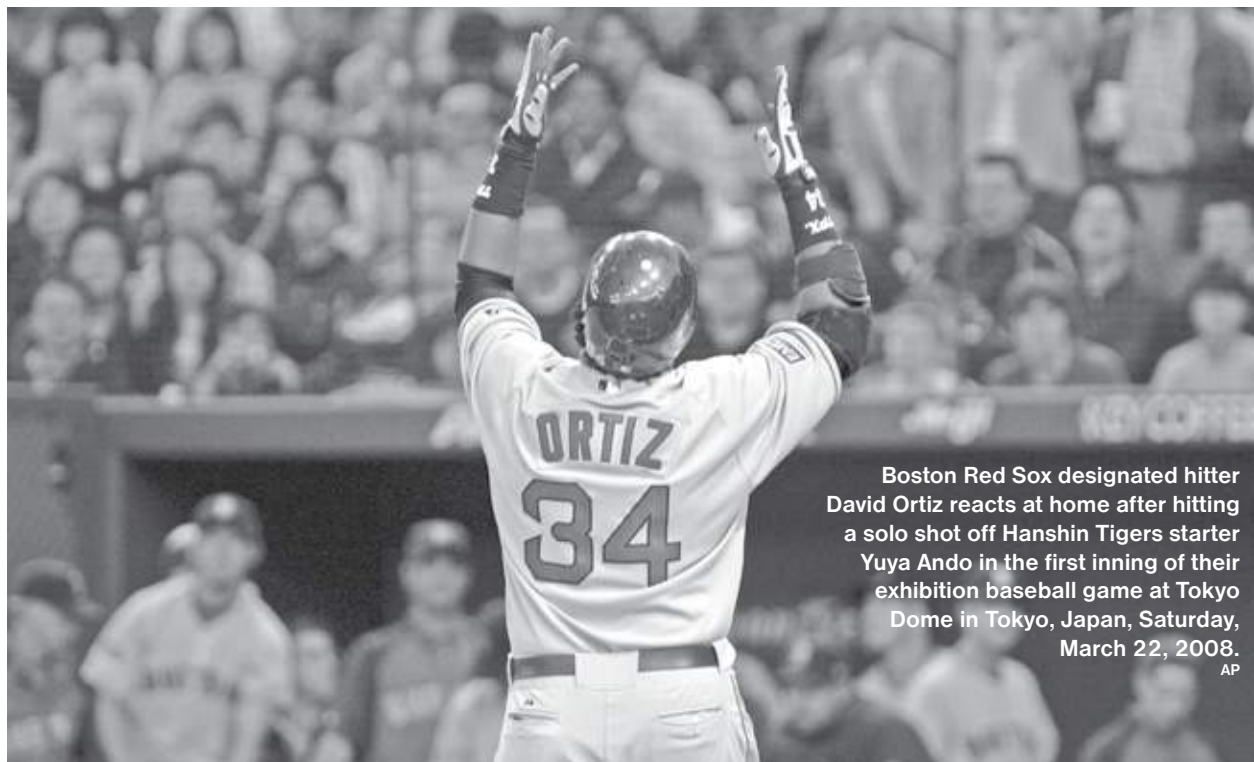
At Los Angeles, Joel Przybilla had a career-high 25 rebounds and 24 points, Brandon Roy scored 23 points and Portland sent Los Angeles to its seventh straight loss.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 21 points and 10 rebounds, helping the Trail Blazers complete a three-game season sweep. The combined margin of victory in the three games was just 18 points. Los Angeles came into this season having won six of the previous seven meetings, including eight straight at Staples Center.

Corey Maggette scored 21 points for the Clippers, who shot 39 percent from the field while matching their longest losing streak of the season.



# Ortiz homers in Boston's win in Japan



Boston Red Sox designated hitter David Ortiz reacts at home after hitting a solo shot off Hanshin Tigers starter Yuya Ando in the first inning of their exhibition baseball game at Tokyo Dome in Tokyo, Japan, Saturday, March 22, 2008. AP



**TOKYO (AP)**—David Ortiz showed Japanese baseball fans his awesome power. Again. In his first at-bat in the country since 2004—the year he hit a 514-foot homer in the same stadium—Ortiz smacked a solo shot under the Tokyo Dome roof and over the left-field wall Saturday.

That started the Red Sox to a 6-5 exhibition win over the Hanshin Tigers, the first of Boston's four games on the trip. The World Series champions meet the Yomiuri Giants in another exhibition Sunday then play the first two games of the regular season against the Oakland Athletics on Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Ortiz's homer wasn't nearly as far as the one that hit the right-field lights just below the roof during a tour with major league all-stars in November 2004 soon after Boston won its first World Series in 86 years.

"It was (after) the end of the season," Ortiz said. "I'm glad to hit one to start the season."

Pitcher Yuya Ando was surprised

to see it go as far as it did.

"I didn't think it was going to go over the fence," he said through a translator. "The major league baseball strike zone is slightly different from ours, and this was a good experience for me."

But it was a familiar sight as the ball soared toward the 13-foot fence with an eerily similar color to the 37-foot high Green Monster that Big Papi dents with opposite-field hits at Fenway Park.

J.D. Drew added a three-run homer to left-center that made it 4-0 in the first.

"We talk all the time," Boston manager Terry Francona said, that if "you hit the ball with power the other way, it's a great approach."

Kevin Youkilis singled in a run in the second. Hanshin cut the lead to 5-4 with four runs in the second against rookie Clay Buchholz as Tigers fans in left field chanted throughout the inning, as they did every time the team came to bat.

"It was different," Francona said. "I'm not sure we knew what to expect."

Buchholz's bid for a spot in the rotation suffered as he had problems for the fourth time in four spring training starts.

"Overall, I thought it went pretty well. I left a couple of pitches up over the plate and that hurt," said Buchholz, who pitched a no-hitter last Sept. 1 in his second major league start. "The Tiger hitters stayed back on the ball better than I thought they might."

Youkilis singled in another run in the sixth before Keiichi Hirano's sacrifice fly made it 6-5 in the bottom of the inning. Earlier in the day, he and Red Sox translator Jeff Yamaguchi played tourist and went to a shrine where Youkilis made a wish.

"He actually told me I was going to have a good game," Youkilis said of Yamaguchi, "but I didn't know I was going to get a couple of hits."

Hanshin right fielder Lew Ford, a Red Sox draft pick in 1999 who hit .272 the past five seasons with Minnesota, went 1-for-2 with two walks.

Before the game, the sound system played "Eye of the Tiger" in recognition of Hanshin's players. And after the top of the eighth, a recording of Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline" filled the ballpark, just as it does at the same point in Boston's home games.

## Lopez retires after he's cut by Braves

**KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP)**—Three-time All-Star Javy Lopez retired Saturday after being reassigned to the Atlanta Braves' minor league camp, ending his bid to return to the majors as a backup catcher.

Lopez, who sat out all of last season, decided against trying to extend his 15-year career in the minors. He batted only .188 this spring in his attempt to become Brian McCann's backup.

The Braves also optioned pitcher Jo-Jo Reyes and outfielder Brandon Jones to Triple-A Richmond, as they reduced their roster by seven.

Lopez was cut by the Colorado Rockies last spring and didn't play at all in 2007. He signed a minor league deal in December with Atlanta, where he played from 1992-2003.

"It didn't happen in spring training," Lopez said. "This is the only chance I get. They give me the opportunity to come back and prove to myself that I can still play. I had the chance and didn't do what I'm supposed to do, or at least not good enough."

Lopez made his decision after meeting with manager Bobby Cox on Saturday.

"Hopefully, he can still continue in the organization, get some at-bats and see what happens," Cox said.

Lopez chose to retire instead, saying his body felt strong but he was not satisfied with his hitting or his lack of success throwing out baserunners.

He did hit a couple of balls hard while going 1-for-5 as the designated hitter against Cleveland on Friday. He drove in a run with a first-inning single off C.C. Sabathia.

"I feel perfect physically," Lopez said. "It's just that the hitting wasn't there and unfortunately I didn't throw the guy out on the stealing attempts. That's a concern. I don't blame them. My role as a backup catcher is to be able to throw every single runner out."

Lopez finished his career as a .287 hitter with 260 home runs and 864 RBIs. He was an All-Star with the

Braves in 1997, 1998 and 2003.

His best year was '03, when he hit .328 with 43 homers and drove in 109 runs, becoming only the third catcher in history with 40 homers, 100 RBIs and a .300 batting average.

Lopez signed with Baltimore before the 2004 season and spent part of '06 with Boston.

Other catchers still competing for the one likely backup spot are Brayan Pena, Clint Sammons and Corky Miller.

The Braves also reassigned pitchers Francisley Bueno, Jorge Campillo and Ryan Drese to Richmond and outfielder Jordan Schafer to Double-A Mississippi.

Reyes, expected to compete for a spot in the rotation, was a major disappointment. He had a 9.82 ERA in four spring games.

The return of Mike Hampton left Reyes competing with Chuck James, Jair Jurrjens and others for one open spot in the rotation.

As a rookie last season, Reyes was 2-2 with a 6.22 ERA in 11 games, including 10 starts. The Braves are still high on the 23-year-old left-hander, who said he need more consistent footwork in his delivery.

The 24-year-old Jones began the spring as one of the top contenders to be the team's fourth outfielder but hit only .211 with no homers and four RBIs. He was Mississippi's player of the year last season before a promotion to Richmond, where he hit .300 with four homers in 44 games. He was called up to Atlanta in September, hitting .158 in 19 at-bats.

Drese hit a batter and gave up six walks—including five straight—and six runs against Cleveland on Friday. The poor outing left his ERA at 12.96.

The Braves reduced their roster to 37 and are not expected to make any more moves before they return to Atlanta for their final two exhibition games against Cleveland next weekend. They must have their roster at 25 players before the March 30 opener at Washington.

## Tiger falters in rain at CA Championship



**DORAL, Fla. (AP)**—Tiger Woods finally looked human Saturday at the CA Championship. Then came some help from the heavens.

Woods couldn't make a putt, scowled more than he smiled, and was struggling to stay at par on a day when the Blue Monster was yielding birdies. What stopped his slide was a rumble of thunder and a torrential storm that dumped 3 inches of rain and suspended the third round until Sunday morning.

Geoff Ogilvy was at 14-under par through 11 holes and kept his one-shot lead, only now it was Adam Scott on his heels, not the world's No. 1 player who has won every tournament he has played since September.

Woods was at 11 under, even for the day, the only player among the top 18 who was not under par for the round.

Scott was practically flawless, making up five shots in five holes against Woods, taking the outright lead with a 25-foot birdie putt that swirled

around the cup before falling, looking confident with every hole he played. Ogilvy still hasn't made a bogey this week, and two late birdies allowed him to regain the lead.

And then it rained.

"If it was our day," Scott said, "it was cut off way too short."

They will resume play Sunday at 8:30 a.m.—if conditions allow—to finish the third round, with the final round of this World Golf Championship scheduled for Sunday afternoon.

The break could not have come at a better time for Woods, who three-putted his first three holes, had two other putts spin off the lip and picked up his only birdie when his wedge stopped 30 inches away on No. 7.

"I'm right there, only three back," Woods said. "A lot of holes to be played tomorrow. And hopefully, I can get it going and get hot for the rest of the day."

The CA Championship looked like it might be a three-man race, but now is loaded with possibilities. Although the third round is incomplete, Woods

headed back to his yacht in a three-way tie for third place.

Vijay Singh was 8 under for his round through 16 holes and faced a 7-foot birdie putt on the 17th when he returned. Also at 11 under for the tournament was Tim Clark, who was 7 under through 15 holes. Graeme Storm nearly made an ace on the par-3 15th that put him at 10 under with three holes remaining. Jim Furyk was 10 under through 13 holes.

Five shots separated eight players when the third round was stopped.

No one was complaining.

"Look, it's where you want to be," Ogilvy said. "You want to be leading with 25 holes to play. I'm happy with where I'm at. If I can keep playing the way I'm playing and putt well, you never know."

All signs pointed toward Woods seizing control of this tournament. He is the three-time defending champion at Doral and at this WGC event, he was swinging well, making every important putt and had the good vibes

of winning six straight official events around the world.

Woods gets weary when people anoint him before the trophy is handed out, and he showed what can happen Saturday.

He reached the back of the green on the par-5 opening hole, but left himself 70 feet on the fringe. He lagged to about 4 feet, but his birdie putt banged off the back lip. That ended Woods' streak of 18 consecutive birdies or better on the first hole at Doral.

Then he three-putted the next hole, lipping out from 3 1/2 feet and making bogey. "To three-putt the first two holes right out of the gate, never a good thing," Woods said.

Scott, meanwhile, looked determined to erase those two bogeys he made at the end of the second round. He holed a 20-foot birdie putt on the third hole, and raised his putter when a 25-foot birdie dropped on the fifth. He missed two other birdie putts inside 8 feet.

Ogilvy couldn't find the fairway, but kept his rhythm with par after par until making a 4-foot birdie on the seventh. He couldn't help but notice that Woods was lagging behind.

"He was hitting it very well. He just

didn't putt like he normally putts," Ogilvy said. "It was just one of those stretches that was probably frustrating the hell out of him. He was playing fine. He just didn't make anything."

The break in play could prove beneficial to Woods, as if he needs any help.

He has trailed going into the final round only twice during this winning streak, by one shot at the BMW Championship and by four shots at the Dubai Desert Classic. But it looked for the longest time on a short day Saturday that Ogilvy and Scott had a chance to put some room between them and Woods.

"I would have liked to get the round in," Scott said. "My round had gone a little stale after a fast start, and I was looking forward to getting to the 12th, a par 5, and giving myself a chance to get moving in the right direction. Geoff just got a little momentum going toward the end of the front nine. And yeah, Tiger was struggling a little bit to get it going."

"It would have been nice to keep playing more holes. But my attitude is the day is over. We'll start tomorrow just like we did today, and hopefully, I get off to a fast start and set the tone."



# TOC set for Aug. 2 and 3

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Par-busters and weekend warriors, circle your calendars for Aug. 2 and 3 when the CNMI's biggest and richest golfing event, 13<sup>th</sup> Tournament of Champions, returns.

According to TOC chairman Ben Babauta, 288 players are scheduled to play in the two-day tournament that again hopes to raise money for the Saipan Beautification Fund. He said over the past 12 years, TOC has raised in excess of \$500,000 for the fund.

"This will be another exciting year for TOC," he said. "Not only are there amazing prizes up for grabs for the players, this is also a worthwhile cause to

continue to beautify the island of Saipan."

Babauta said in typical TOC fashion, this year's tournament promises more excitement and prizes than in years past—justifying TOC's reputation at the premier golf tournament in the region.

Entry forms may be picked up at the second floor executive offices at DFS Galleria, at LaoLao Bay Golf Resort or online at [www.tocsaipan.com](http://www.tocsaipan.com).

Jess "Mr. Unorthodox" Wabol won his second straight Tournament of Champions title in last year's 12th TOC at the Laolao Bay golf Resort.

Wabol bested 12 other golf-



ers and tamed the east and west course at Laolao by shooting a two-day total of 150 for a four-shot lead over closest pursuer and opening day leader Edward R. Flores 154 (75-79).

Wabol shot a 76 in the first day of competitions but bounced back with a 74 in the final day to snatch the TOC Championship Flight title from Flores' hands.

The former Oleai Elementary School principal also won the TOC Championship Flight in 1998, 2000, and 2006. Ladies Flight veteran Noriko Togawa had the most number of wins with six including a string of five straight victories

from 2001 to 2005.

Also completing her second consecutive title was rising teen golfer Leina Kim in the Ladies Flight. She posted a 15-stroke lead over Togawa, who won the inaugural event in 1996.

Other division winners were Gi Yeong Kim (A); Edward H. Cho (B); Gerald Guerrero (C); Ed Manibusan (Seniors); Lito Mendoza (Super Seniors); and Rose Tarpley (Ladies Low Net).

Japanese golfer Koji Hashimoto, who made the trip to Saipan from Osaka to join the TOC, also made a hole-in-one in the first day of the tourney. The Saipan tourist aced the 17th hole of Laolao's west course to win a 2008 Mitsubishi Lancer.

# PBA Legends wow 'em in California

CALIFORNIA—Classic rivalries were rekindled and history revisited as PBA stars of yesteryears took the hard court once again, playing a series of exhibition games for a cause.

More than 60 ex-pros from Manila and various parts of the United States took part in the 2008 PBA Legends Grand Reunion Tour, reminiscing the good old days and bringing joy and excitement to the Filipino-Americans in four major cities in California.

Stars of the fabled Crispa-Toyota rivalry headlined the roster of players which also included some of the finest players of the local pro league in the '90s.

They figured in a four-game series with Martin Purefoods-Crispa and Ohama Harbor-Toyota winning two games apiece.

Toyota scored a pulsating 91-89 win in the series opener at

the Logan High School gym in Union City on March 8 before Crispa got even the following day with a 96-91 decision at the Arco Arena in Sacramento.

Crispa made it two in a row with a 104-101 victory in Carson City but Toyota closed the series at 2-2, pulling off a 94-86 triumph in San Diego.

Abet Guidaben, still showing some spring in his legs at 55, fired 21 points to lead all scorers in the Carson City contest. Atoy Co and Ronnie Magsanoc pumped in 19 apiece with Jojo Lastimosa adding 16, Yoyoy Villamin 11 and Bogs Adornado 10.

Vergel Meneses rattled in 20 points to pace Toyota which also drew double-digit outputs from Gerry Esplana and Manny Victorino.



In San Diego, Meneses once again topscored for Toyota with 23 with Jerry Codinera and Tim Coloso contributing 11 apiece, Olsen Racela nine and Mon Fernandez and Francis Arnaiz with eight apiece.

The losing team drew double-digit outputs from Magsanoc, Villamin, Guidaben and Romy dela Rosa.

Others playing for Crispa were Bernie Fabiosa, Philip Cezar, Alvin Patrimonio, Sonny Cabatu. Allan Caidic played the first two games but rushed back to Manila to attend to a personal matter.

Others in the Robert Jaworski-mentored Toyota roster were Abe King, Manny Paner, Art dela Cruz, Hector Calma, Bong Alvarez, Marte Saldana and Yves Dignadice.

Some other players played in the preliminaries of the series held by the PBA Legends USA Foundation to raise funds for its various programs. The foundation is the brainchild of King, backed by Rey Santos, Rufino Ignacio and other fellow former cagers.

There were also a series of one-on-one matches. It was Fernandez over Cezar, 6-4, King over Fernandez, 9-4, Cezar over King, 4-2, and Fabiosa over Arnaiz, 6-4, in Union City; King over Fernandez, 9-4, Fernandez over Cezar 12-8, King over Cezar, 6-3, and Arnaiz over Fabiosa, 6-2, in Sacramento; Cezar over King, 10-4, and Fabiosa over Arnaiz, 6-0, in Carson City; and Arnaiz over Fabiosa, 8-0, Cezar over Fernandez, 4-0, and Meneses over Alvarez, 6-2, in San Diego. ([www.pba.com.ph](http://www.pba.com.ph))

**SIX**  
From Page 28

Fanians won by default against Beach Jammerz, while CH-Hammer showed Home Boyz the door after a hard-earned 25-20, 27-25 win.

No Fear dealt Islanders its first loss in the playoff round after a 25-21, 25-17 decision, while Menudos won by walk-over against Ol'Aces, which forfeited the match.

Two more teams are expected to go out today when Fanians battle the Islanders at 6pm with

CH-Hammers clashing with Menudos at 7pm, while Ol'Aces collide with No Fear at 8pm.

The winner of the Fanians-Islanders match will face the winner of the game between CH-Hammers and Menudos at 8:30pm.

In the women's division, Pikan Gaga battles YoYo's today at 6pm

with the winner earning the first finals berth while the loser facing the winner of the Seikid-Beach Jammers 7pm game.

Pikan Gaga also had an easy job against Beach Jammers last March 19, while Seikid knocked out Ta Chagi after a 25-19, 25-19 win.

**ASPAC**  
From Page 28

ments on April 15. "I have been in the Little League program for more than 20 years and I have no knowledge of India competing before. If India pushes through, this would be their first time to compete."

Borja said they only wanted to assure if SGH and Fiesta have enough rooms available during the period of the Asia-Pacific tournament. "[SGH] is near the baseball field, it would be convenient for all the teams since there will be less travel time for practices and the games."

"We wanted to know how many rooms will be available for the participating teams during the regional tournament. How much would it cost since we will be needing at the most 104 rooms."

Borja said they wanted to secure the rooms early in order for them to inform the other countries so they can finalize their number of delegates. "We will be assisting them in booking the rooms. The organizing committee has full responsibility to all delegates one day before and one day after the tournament."

He added most of the time, the players travel with their

parents and friends while officials and coaches bring their family and official media partners. "So you are looking at nine nights, from June 26 to July 4, where more than 200 people will be staying and spending on Saipan. If they choose to stay after the tournament it is on their own."

"We are looking at a maximum of four persons—one adult and three kids—in one standard-sized room. With an extra bed to be provided. [SGH] will be for players and coaches while those not included in the team can be housed at Fiesta."

Salas and Flores said most of the teams also want their

meals packed and delivered at the baseball field where they would eat to save them time. Aside from accommodation and meals, transportation will also be provided to the teams.

The Asia-Pacific Regional Tournament is a qualifying tournament for all three divisions—Junior, Senior, and Big League. Saipan last hosted the regional tournament in 2001.

The World Series for the Junior League (13-14) will be held in Taylor, Michigan while Bangor, Maine will host the Senior League (15-16). The Big League World Series (17-18) will be held on Easley South, Carolina.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
NBA STANDINGS				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Boston	55	14	.797	—
Toronto	35	34	.507	20
Philadelphia	35	35	.500	20 1/2
New Jersey	29	41	.414	26 1/2
New York	19	50	.275	36
Southeast Division				
x-Orlando	46	26	.639	—
Washington	35	33	.515	9
Atlanta	30	39	.435	14 1/2
Charlotte	25	44	.362	19 1/2
Miami	12	57	.174	32 1/2
Central Division				
x-Detroit	49	19	.721	—
Cleveland	40	31	.563	10 1/2
Indiana	29	41	.414	21
Chicago	27	42	.391	22 1/2
Milwaukee	24	44	.353	25
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
New Orleans	47	21	.691	—
Houston	47	23	.671	1
San Antonio	46	23	.667	1 1/2
Dallas	44	25	.638	3 1/2
Memphis	18	51	.261	29 1/2
Northwest Division				
Utah	46	25	.648	—
Denver	41	28	.594	4
Portland	37	33	.529	8 1/2
Minnesota	18	51	.261	27
Seattle	16	54	.229	29 1/2
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	48	21	.696	—
Phoenix	47	22	.681	1
Golden State	42	26	.618	5 1/2
Sacramento	31	38	.449	17
L.A. Clippers	21	48	.304	27
x-clinched playoff spot				
y-clinched division				
Yesterday's Games				
Atlanta 98, Orlando 90				
Charlotte 94, Miami 82				
Philadelphia 91, New Jersey 87				
Memphis 117, Sacramento 111				
New Orleans 113, Boston 106				
Minnesota 114, New York 93				
Indiana 108, Chicago 101				
Milwaukee 108, Cleveland 98				
Utah 115, Seattle 101				
Phoenix 122, Houston 113				
Portland 83, L.A. Clippers 72				
CA CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES				
DORAL, Florida (AP)—Scores Saturday from the CA Championship, an \$8 million (\$5.2 million) World Golf Championships event at the 7,266-yard, par-72 Blue Course at Doral Golf Resort & Spa:				
Partial Third Round				
Note: Play suspended with 61 players still on the course.				
Nick O'Hern	67-75-67	209		
Gregory Havret	68-74-68	210		
Robert Allenby	69-75-66	210		
Camilo Villegas	71-72-68	211		
Daniel Chopra	72-70-69	211		
Stuart Appleby	73-71-68	212		
Aaron Baddeley	69-74-70	213		
Justin Leonard	69-74-70	213		
Graeme McDowell	72-71-70	213		
Nick Dougherty	70-73-71	214		
Trevor Immelman	70-74-70	214		
Arron Oberholser	72-70-72	214		
Ian Poulter	71-72-72	215		
Lee Westwood	71-72-72	215		
Martin Kaymer	68-74-73	215		
Brandt Snedeker	74-70-72	216		
Brett Wetterich	70-74-76	220		
Henrik Stenson	72-72-76	220		
LEADERBOARD				
	SCORE	THRU	TODAY	
Geoff Ogilvy	-14	11	-2	
Adam Scott	-13	11	-4	
Tim Clark	-11	15	-7	
Vijay Singh	-11	16	-8	
Tiger Woods	-11	11	E	
Jim Furyk	-10	13	-6	
Graeme Storm	-10	15	-7	
Retief Goosen	-9	13	-5	
Anders Hansen	-8	11	-2	
K.J. Choi	-8	14	-4	
Zach Johnson	-8	15	-5	
Jeev Milkha Singh	-7	11	-1	
Mark Calcavecchi	-7	12	-2	
Stephen Ames	-7	17	-4	
Mike Weir	-7	17	-5	
Nick O'Hern	-7	F	-5	
Sergio Garcia	-5	17	-3	
Niclas Fasth	-5	17	-2	
Justin Rose	-5	16	-2	
Phil Mickelson	-5	16	-2	
Soren Kjeldsen	-5	12	-1	
Miguel A. Jimenez	-5	12	E	
Steve Stricker	-5	12	E	
Robert Karlsson	-5	11	+1	
Toru Taniguchi	-4	17	-1	
Ross Fisher	-4	15	-1	
Stewart Cink	-4	13	E	
Luke Donald	-4	12	E	
Ryuji Imada	-3	17	E	
John Rollins	-3	16	-4	
Woody Austin	-3	14	+1	
Chapchai Nirat	-3	13	+1	
Boo Weekley	-2	17	-3	
Scott Verplank	-2	15	+1	
Rory Sabbatini	-2	15	-4	
Andres Romero	-2	12	+2	
Hunter Mahan	-1	17	-1	
Paul Casey	-1	15	-4	
J.B. Holmes	-1	15	+2	
Louis Oosthuizen	E	16	-2	
S.S.P. Chowrasia	E	15	-3	
Richard Sterne	E	13	-4	
Paul Sheehan	+1	17	E	
Charles Howell III	+1	17	E	
Richard Green	+1	16	-1	
Colin Montgomerie	+1	13	-4	
Peter Hanson	+2	16	+1	
Jonathan Byrd	+2	14	-2	
Brendan Jones	+2	12	-5	
Andrew McLardy	+3	14	-1	
Angel Cabrera	+3	13	-2	
James Kingston	+3	13	-2	
Craig Parry	+4	13	E	
D.J. Trahan	+5	15	+2	
W.C. Liang	+5	15	+1	
Sean O'Hair	+5	14	+1	
Ernie Els	+6	13	+1	
Mark Brown	+7	15	+4	
Shingo Katayama	+7	12	E	
Anton Haig	+7	12	-1	
Soren Hansen	+7	12	-3	
Heath Slocum	+8	16	+6	

By The Associated Press

**AIKAWA**  
From Page 28

ing for ninth (77-70-78-225). Teammates Carolina Perez (75-75-84-234) and Xyra Suyetsugu (75-79-82-236) ended up in a tie for 17th and in 23rd places.

Corie Hou (76-84-79-239), tied for 33rd while Kimberley Marsden (83-78-86-247) finished tied for 67th.

Other UH players that competed were Phyllis Lai (77-77-83-237), tying for 24th, and Erin Matsuoka (82-81-84-247), tied for 67th.

Arizona's Alison Walshe won the individual as she was the only player that finished at 3-under-par. OSU's Pernilla Lindberg was 2-over-par to come in second while teammate Tamasin Clelland finished third after going 4-over-par.

Aikawa and the Rainbow Wahine will have spring break before competing in the Peg Bernard Invitational on April 11 and 12 in Stanford, Calif.

Aikawa, who graduated at the Northern Marianas Academy in 2003, was a tennis most valuable player and was coached by former Pacific Oceania Davis Cup team captain Jeff Race.

The 23-year-old Aikawa, who recently celebrated her birthday, was also included in the President's list and is a former member of the CNMI Youth Congress.

The daughter of Yasuko and Kiyoshi of Tokyo, Japan, Aikawa was born in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada but was raised on Saipan where she honed her tennis skills. She has a brother, Kei.

In 2006, Aikawa won the gold in the women's singles and mixed doubles with Race in the 6th Micronesian Games on Saipan. She also helped the CNMI win the women's team bronze with Lila Mailman and Mayuko Arriola.



# NMA names 10 as '07 top athletes



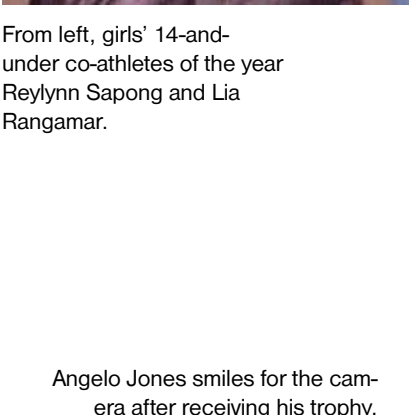
Northern Marianas Athletics Female Athlete of the Year Yvonne Bennett, center, joins NMA president Kurt Barnes, left, and NMA vice president Lou Wabol for a group photo.



Boys' 18-and-under nominees, from left, Matt Mancao, Champ Untalan, and Jesus Iguel pose for photographers. Not in photo is Nate Mateo.



From left, girls' 14-and-under co-athletes of the year Reylynn Sapong and Lia Rangamar.



Angelo Jones smiles for the camera after receiving his trophy.



**PHOTOS and TEXT By JON PEREZ**  
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics named 10 athletes that excelled in the chosen events of their respective age divisions in the 2007 Athletes of the Year banquet held last Wednesday at the pavilion across the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Leading the list of winners were Male and Female Open award winners Tyrone Omar and Yvonne Bennett with Boys and Girls Athletes of the Year Nate Mateo and Jacque Wonenberg joining them.

Boys' and Girls' 10-and-under Athletes of the Year Jordan Manglona and Gabrielle Race leads a cast of winners that are considered to be the future of the CNMI athletic program.

Joining Manglona and Race are Angelo Jones and Ashley



Babauta (12-and-under); J.R. Concepcion, and co-athletes Reylynn Sapong and Lia Rangamar (14-and-under).

The other nominees were Taylor Knecht, Michaela Grandinetti, and Emily Jones (girls); Jordan Butcher, Danny Auther, and Kenyan Schultz (boys) in the 10-and-under. Rachel Abraham and Jellian Majors (girls); Crosby Schultz, Brandon Philips, David Ramon, Michael Mancao, and Byron Ryan (boys) in the 12-and-under; Madison Schultz and Chiang Duenas (girls), and Mike Bondoc (boys) in the 14-and-under; Champ Untalan, Matt Mancao, and Jesus Iguel (boys 18-and-under); and Nick Gross and Dexter Dillay (men's open).

Mamiko Oshima, meanwhile, bested Mieko Carey, Noriko Jim, and Akiko Hagiwara for the roadrunner of the year crown.



From left, Angelo Jones and Crosby Schultz wait for the announcement of the 2007 boys' 12-and-under Athlete of the Year. Not in photo are Brandon Philips, David Ramon, Michael Mancao, and Byron Ryan.

8. Girls' 10-and-under NMA Athlete of the Year Gabrielle Race.



Northern Marianas Athletics girls' 14-and-under Co-athletes of the Year, from left, Reylynn Sapong and Lia Rangamar poses with fellow nominee Madison Schultz. Not in photo is Chiang Duenas.



Northern Marianas Athletics president Kurt Barnes, left, gives 2007 girls' 18-and-under Athlete of the Year Jacque Wonenberg a pat on the back while NMA vice president Lou Wabol looks on.



Nominees in the boys' 10-and-under division show off their certificates, from left, Kenyon Schultz, Danny Auther, and Jordan Butcher. Not in photo is 2007 boys' 10-and-under Athlete of the Year Jordan Manglona.



Jordan Butcher, center, shares a laugh with Northern Marianas Athletics president Kurt Barnes, left, and NMA vice president Lou Wabol.







## NMA names 10 as '07 top athletes

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27

# Saipan Tribune Sports

## Collison's heroics lift UCLA past A&M

Those UCLA Bruins keep finding more drama and ways to win in the closing seconds.

24



28 MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2008

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Determination keeps Butch going

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

**B**utch Sublemente's experience in the 7th Annual XTERRA Saipan Championships is a story that needs to be told and will even be part of racing lore for future generations.

For the second straight XTERRA Saipan, Sublemente suffered mechanical problems when the cable of his derailleur broke midway in the bike leg of the March 8 race.

The Glooay Mai Thai Spa employee did not finish the XTERRA last year dropping out in the bike leg when he had problems with his bicycle. This year, though he was determined to finish the race no matter what happens.

"I was going up at Navy Hill inside a private farm when the cable of my derailleur broke. I noticed that I had some problems with my bike when I shifted gears but the shifter won't work," said Sublemente, who told his story while at the finish line of the 19th Tagaman Triathlon last week.

"At first I got frustrated since it won't change gears. But I never gave up, what I did was I pulled the cable manually since the shifter won't work."

Sublemente said that from Navy Hill to Kingfisher he shifted manually when going uphill and went freewheeling go-



JON PEREZ

Butch Sublemente runs inside the jungle trail in the 7th Annual XTERRA Saipan Championship last March 8.

ing down. At times, he would walk and push his bike because of his problem. "The gears won't work so I would get off my bike and push."

He said when he reached Santa Lourdes that was when he decided to look for a rope or anything that he can use to fix his broken derailleur. That is when he spotted an old garden hose.

"I was desperate and determined to finish the race. When I saw the garden hose, I said to myself, 'This would do.' I pulled the broken cable then tied it using the garden hose. I tied the other end at the saddle so I could use the large gears and I will just use the smaller ones in front," said Sublemente, who also suffered the same problem last year.

Sublemente's perseverance allowed him to finish his first individual XTERRA Saipan race, earning him third place honors in the 30-34 age group behind Japan's Masato Samata and American Thomas Alcivar.

He finished the 1.5-kilometer swim, 30-km mountain bike, and 12-km trail run in four hours, five minutes, and six seconds just 1:45 behind Alcivar (4:03:19). Imagine if his derailleur did not break; maybe he could have won the division.

Sublemente said his bike was fine

before the race. "I even rode the course and everything went well. Maybe it is because that you are pressured in the race you never noticed that you have been cranking up the shift gear hard, causing it to break."

He said the same thing happened to three-time XTERRA Saipan champion and pro Jamie Whitmore and former

Northern Mariana Islands Triathlon Federation president Dirk Sharer in past XTERRA Saipan races.

Sublemente, who used to play basketball before shifting to

triathlon, was a member of the CNMI National Triathlon Team that won the silver medal in the 6th Micronesian Games in 2006. He first competed in XTERRA Saipan in 2004 in a team then decided to do the whole thing individually last year.

He is not new in bike races since he was a former BMX champion when he was still in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, south of the Philippines. He started competing in BMX bike races when he was 12 and placed second in his first competition.

The following year, he won the title, beating veteran riders in the All-Palawan Championship. He tried triathlon with the help of Joshua Berger, who is his training partner and first sponsor.



# Aikawa tries her hand in golf

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER



From the tennis courts, to the golf course.

Former CNMI women's tennis player Kana

Aikawa has tried her luck in the sport of golf and made it to the University of Hawai'i Manoa Rainbow Wahine women's golf team.

Aikawa, a senior at UH-Manoa, finished the Dr. Donnis Thompson Invitational tied for 83rd with scores of



Aikawa

84, 88, and 880 for a total of 260 at the Kane'ohe Klipper Golf Course in Kane'ohe, O'ahu, Hawaii.

The Rainbow Wahine finished fourth overall with a final score of 303-302-323 for a total of 928. They finished behind champion Oklahoma State University, University of Arizona, and Arizona State.

OSU won the title with scores of 291-296-293 for a 16-over-par 880 or 13 shots clear of runner up University of Arizona (286-301-306, 893). Arizona State came in third (301-293-303, 897).

Lisa Kajihara was the top individual finisher for the Rainbow Wahine, ty-

See AIKAWA on Page 26



JON PEREZ

Home Boyz's Siwas Awes, left, spikes the ball while two Beach Jammers defend at the net in this file photo taken during the first round of the men's division of the 2008 Indoor Volleyball Winter League last January. Home Boyz's and the Beach Jammers' season ended last week when they were knocked out by separate opponents.

# AsPac members resume planning for regional meet

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER



Members of the 2008 Asia-Pacific Junior, Senior, and Big League Regional Tournament resumed their planning for a smooth regional tournament when they held a meeting last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The regional tournament committee

met with officials of the Saipan Grand Hotel and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan last Friday to discuss accommodations for more than 200 delegates expected to arrive in June.

SGH general manager Ed Cho and Tan Holdings Corp. president Jerry Tan met with CNMI district administrator and international board member James Ada, tournament director Mike Borja, and committee members Joe Salas, Joey Dela Cruz, Cathy Salas, and Annie Flores.

Ada said he expects 104 official delegates from the four participating countries that includes the players, managers, coaches, officials, and umpires.

Hong Kong and Indonesia are expected to send two teams, while Guam, the Philippines, and host CNMI will be competing in all three divisions.

Ada added that India may also compete and has asked to extend the deadline of the submission of require-

See ASPAC on Page 26

# Six teams left in men's, Ta Chagi knocked out

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

Only six teams remain in the hunt for the two finals berth in the men's division, while Seikid knocked out Ta Chagi in the women's side of the 2008 Indoor Volleyball Winter League held last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



Boyz were eliminated after suffering consecutive losses in the playoff round.

See SIX on Page 26